

Flagship Bill clears last big hurdle

Lords' poll tax rebellion fails

By Sheila Gunn and Philip Webster

The poll tax Bill, the flagship of the Prime Minister's legislative programme, decisively cleared its last big hurdle in the Lords last night.

The Government averted potentially its most serious defeat since 1979 by bringing in scores of peers from across the country to vote down a Conservative backbench attempt to relate the tax to people's ability to pay.

Peers backed away from a constitutional confrontation with the Commons, giving the Government a majority of 134 in the biggest voting turnout since 1917 and one of the biggest this century.

The voting was 317 to 183 against the attempt to change the flat-rate nature of the charge.

As a result a flat-rate community charge will replace the rates in 1990, fulfilling a pledge first made by the Prime Minister 14 years ago.

Only 14 Conservative peers backed Lord Chelwood, the former Conservative MP, in his crusade to force the Government to think again.

The outcome dashed the hopes of many Conservative MPs and ministers who had been hoping the Lords would send the issue back to the Commons for another airing.

After the vote they conceded that the battle was over.

The Government's majority had fallen to only 25 when the Commons debated the Bill last month.

With encouragement from the Lords rebel Tories believed they could force the Government to back down.

Lords and Commons ministers were jubilant as the voting figures were announced, with Lord Belstead, Leader of the Lords, thumping the front bench in delight.

Mr Neil Kinnock said last night that 317 peers who would all gain greatly from the introduction of the poll tax had voted to kill an attempt to relate it to ability to pay.

The debate had turned against the rebels after an emotional intervention from Lord Whitlaw, the former Deputy Prime Minister, in his first speech in 30 years, not

given as a government minister.

He warned the Lords they would be destroying their high reputation as a revising chamber and confronting the elected chamber and the elected government if they backed Lord Chelwood.

Seven Conservatives pleaded with the Government to take account of people's ability in their poll tax proposals. They included former Cabinet ministers, Lord Pym and Lord Carr.

The Government's crushing victory came after a rare dispatch of a three-line whip to its supporters spread across the country to save the flagship.

Lord Denham, the Government Chief Whip, was being congratulated by ministers last night over the success of his operation. "It is an enormous achievement", Lord Whitlaw said.

It is the biggest vote since the Lords backed Britain's entry into the European Community when 509 peers voted.

Lord Chelwood, normally a staunch government supporter, had mounted his campaign as what he saw as an attempt to rescue the Conservatives from defeat at the next election.

That theme was pursued during the three-hour debate by the rebels. One, Lord Onslow, told the peers: "The poll tax, if introduced, will lose the Conservative government the next election because how can we as the party of the family encourage people to kick their children out of their

house or send their elderly relatives into old people's homes?"

He added that the sight of large numbers of hereditary peers supporting the poll tax was something he hoped he would never see.

Sir George Young, Conservative MP for Ealing Acton, who led the rebel campaign in the Commons, said last night he was "very disappointed".

He and others accepted that the fight had been lost.

The debate has finally disposed of the central argument against the flat-rate charge. There will be no further attempt during the rest of the detailed passage of the Local Government Finance Bill to introduce the ability-to-pay element.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the former Lord Chancellor, added to Lord Whitlaw's warning that the Lords were threatening conflict with the Commons.

He said it was unconstitutional for peers to make such a significant change in a revenue-raising Bill.

The Conservatives who rebelled against the Government were Lord Pym, Lord Prior, Lord Carr, Lord Chelwood, Lord Auckland, Lady Faithfull, Lord Ellenborough, Lord Brentford, Lord Aldington, Lord Onslow, Lord Bolton, and Lord Caidicot, Lord Geddes and Lord Cromartie.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, also backed Lord Chelwood's amendment, as did the bishops of Gloucester, Leicester and Chichester.

Backwoodsmen ensure win

By Alan Hamilton

Philip Gordon, the third Lord Cranworth, made it to the poll tax debate in the nick of time yesterday. Not being the most regular attendee at the House of Lords, he had himself sworn in half an hour before the vital business began.

All peers have to take the oath of allegiance and shake the hand of the Lord Chancellor once in every government if they wish to speak or vote. Conservatives have been trickling through the procedure every day since the present Parliament began, but Lord Cranworth, who made a rare journey from his home at Woodbridge, Suffolk, almost left it too late.

He was one of 500 who poured through the division lobbies in the biggest Lords vote since 1971, with the Tories calling in their most obscure transients and backwoodsmen to ensure the survival of the poll tax proposals against the revolt of Lord Chelwood, the former Sir Tulton Beamish.

Backwoodsmen are, by definition, unrecognized and unrecognizable. They are clearly sufficiently well off not to need the daily attendance allowance of £52 plus travelling expenses and a further £52 for an overnight stay if they come from outside London.

The vote will have cost £26,000 in attendance fees alone. The total cost will be at least double that figure.

One reason for such a big attendance is that the system of sittings, which saves MPs from much unnecessary attendance at votes, is not employed in the Lords, at least not officially. However, discrete and unofficial agreements are known to exist.

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Pound still climbing

The pound's rise continued yesterday, providing a further headache for the Chancellor, alongside figures pointing to a slowdown in the economy.

The pound rose by a penny to 3.18 marks, in spite of worries about Friday's trade figures, and gained half a cent to \$1.8680.

Shares lost ground, with the FT-SE 100 index falling 8.9 points to 1,761.3. In New York, the Dow Jones average was 18.57 points down early last night.

Britain's gross domestic product figures in the first quarter showed an increase of 0.2 per cent, the smallest for nearly three years. Although the growth rate compared with a year earlier was 4.6 per cent, officials said the figures were consistent with a slowdown in the economy. Details, page 25

England's day

Poor weather limited play at Lord's in the third and final Texaco Proton day cricket international, where at close of play West Indies were 125 for six against England, with five overs remaining. Page 48

TIMES FOCUS

At the Mansion House today leaders of the Labour Party will describe their attempts to forge a partnership for action after the trauma of recession. Special report... Pages 31-35

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Opera heroine's triumph



Rosa Manoni at home yesterday after a stunning debut with Glyndebourne Opera. The understudy took over a leading part in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* at five hours' notice.

Kremlin agrees draft reforms

From Michael Binyon Moscow

Mr Yegor Ligachov, the Politburo's leading conservative, announced yesterday that the policy-making Central Committee of the Communist Party had approved a blueprint for reform to be discussed at the party conference Mr Mikhail Gorbachev has called next month to approve his reform programme.

At the same time, a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme Soviet recommended approval of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty, increasing the pressure on the US Senate to do likewise before the start of the summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev here on Sunday.

The Central Committee heard a report from Mr Gorbachev, who is leading the drive for sweeping political reforms that include a limit on the time officials can serve in one post, and a mandatory retirement age.

Tass said these "theses" were debated, but gave no indication of what was said. However, Mr Ligachov, the second most senior member after Mr Gorbachev, indicated that there had been sharp debate.

Arriving 35 minutes late for the meeting of the Foreign Affairs Commission, he said in apology: "We were conducting serious work and we had to finish." He said they had adopted important proposals for further economic

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British Airways gives up fight for B-Cal's old domestic routes

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Airways unexpectedly gave up its attempts to win back all domestic air services previously flown by British Caledonian from Gatwick last night, giving the country's small independent airlines an unchallenged opportunity to expand.

The carrier also walked out of hearings being held by the Civil Aviation Authority to reallocate licences to Nice and Oslo which the EEC had insisted be handed back as a condition of the merger between BA and B-Cal. The airline said it was "not prepared to devote further costs and managerial time to what is becoming a pointless exercise".

The snub to the authority came after a ruling last week that British Airways should be excluded from the lucrative Paris and Brussels routes, with

Air Europe having sole right to fly from Gatwick to Brussels and the Paris services being shared between Dan-Air and Air Europe.

Lord King, British Airways' chairman, and his senior management were infuriated by that ruling, regarding it as an about-turn on competition policy. They argued that granting exclusive rights to airlines limited competition and simply substituted one carrier for another.

Under the terms of the EEC agreement, however, British Airways was forbidden to appeal against those decisions and after discussions at the weekend, decided that there was no point in continuing the battle to fly to Edinburgh, Glasgow and Manchester, or to prepare detailed cases for the return of the B-Cal licences for Nice and Oslo.

Instead the airline will concentrate on fighting for three other European routes - Milan, Geneva and Frankfurt - that it did not offer to hand back to the CAA under the terms of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report into the merger. Air Europe has asked the authority to revoke those licences and allow it to fly unopposed.

Whatever the authority decides, appeals are still possible on each of those routes, should the decision go against British Airways. The airline sees such an appeal as a chance to open competition policy to renewed political scrutiny.

Since all the former B-Cal routes are being operated on a temporary basis by British Airways pending the outcome of a series of hearings before the CAA, the decision not to

pursue the applications will not have any immediate effect either on the number of people employed or on the services themselves.

However, the routes should be in the hands of the new operators by October. Then British Airways will be forced to sell some of its existing fleet of short-haul aircraft and perhaps cut staff beyond the 2,000 voluntary redundancies now being sought.

Meanwhile, it will try to increase its share of the market on the 15 European routes from Gatwick whose licences were always held by British Airways and which are not subject to the review.

Mr Harry Goodman, chairman of Air Europe, said last night: "British Airways has handed the whole thing to us on a plate. At one time I was

Continued on page 24, col 4

Gay rights protest disrupts TV news

Richard Evans, Media Editor

Gay rights protesters last night disrupted BBC Television's six o'clock news. Four women evaded tight security to reach the sixth floor studio at BBC television centre and started shouting and screaming as Sue Lawley began reading the news headlines.

For two minutes viewers heard muffled shouts, the crash of studio scenery and screams as technicians battled to remove the protesters.

As the half hour news programme began a woman could be heard shouting: "Stop section 28... stop Thatcher." That clause in the Local Government Finance Bill bars local authorities from spending money to promote homosexuality.

It has been attacked and in February gay rights activists protested in the chamber of the Lords.

Miss Rachel Cox, speaking for yesterday's protesters, said

last night the four London women had planned to attach themselves to cameras so that they could not be hauled out. She said the protest was "a further statement of lesbian defiance" at the local government measures which became law at midnight.



Arson hunt after NUS car blaze

Kent police are hunting arsonists who set alight a car containing receipts which could have helped sequestrators trace money from the National Union of Seamen.

Two youths were seen running from the car after throwing in two containers of liquid on Sunday night.

Mr Colin Bennett, a NUS official, parked the Ford Escort outside the union's Dover branch headquarters last Friday on the orders of the sequestrators.

He put the keys through the office letter box, leaving the receipts in the car. The receipts are thought to be crucial in tracing £70,000 withdrawn from the NUS account and various bank transactions after the sale of £386,790 in shares.

Kent police said last night: "A clerk saw two men tampering with the car and throw something in. The inside was completely destroyed."

Nurses hail new training package

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Radical measures to reform the training of nurses and to solve the recruitment crisis in the profession were announced yesterday to a delighted audience of nurses.

The Government proposals, hailed by the Royal College of Nursing as the greatest change in the profession in 130 years, will give student nurses the full 80 per cent rebate on the community charge.

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, received a standing ovation and shouts of hooray from delegates at the Royal College of Nursing congress in Brighton when he announced the reforms.

He said nursing students would now have the same "rights and privileges" as other students.

Miss Maude Storey, president of the college, said the

announcement marked an "historic day for nursing". Mr Trevor Clay, general secretary of the college, said it represented the biggest change in nursing since the time of Florence Nightingale.

Mr Moore announced a 18-month common foundation programme for all nurses topped up with 18-month specialist courses. He also disclosed that the entry gate for nurses would be widened to attract those with fewer academic qualifications.

A grade of "nurse helper" will be introduced. She will work under supervision but is likely to be involved in more clinical care than the present nursing auxiliary.

Mr Bob Jones, national officer of the National Union of Public Employees, said the Government was seeking "cheaper nursing".

Leading article, page 15

Moynihan warns on England-Scotland fixture

By John Goodbody Sports News Correspondent

Mr Colin Moynihan, Minister for Sport, said yesterday that he believed future England v Scotland football internationals should be cancelled unless effective segregation of rival fans can be carried out.

Mr Moynihan has demanded a full report from the Football Association on Saturday's match at Wembley, when a total of 223 fans were arrested before, during and after the annual fixture which marked the most severe outbreak of hooliganism in Britain this season.

He is particularly disturbed at the failure of the Football Association to ensure that the two sets of supporters were separated. "There is no excuse

for not having effective segregation. I am going to take them to town on this," he said.

The minister will be including details of Saturday's troubles in his report next month to UEFA, the European governing body, which is to decide on June 24 whether English clubs should be readmitted to the European club championships after a three-year ban imposed after the Heysel stadium disaster in May 1985.

"If UEFA wanted any clear evidence of the depth of the problem in this country, they witnessed it on Saturday," he said.

Speaking on BBC Radio Four's *World at One* programme, he said: "Despite my written request to the chairman of the FA, when I urged

them to ensure that every possible precautionary step was to be in place, this did not happen."

Mr Moynihan said he could not understand how supporters wearing England or Scotland colours had got through turnstiles into the same parts of the ground for the Rous Cup game. He will be discussing the problems at a meeting today with Mr Michael Forsyth, Conservative MP for Stirling and Minister with responsibility for sport in Scotland.

"Given that every measure was taken by the authorities, I feel that until we can ensure effective segregation, I do not believe the fixture can remain on the list," he added. There were 1,200 police on duty at the stadium.

Mr Kenneth Campbell, a Scottish football fan, accused of grievous bodily harm on a young policewoman, was yesterday remanded on £2,000 bail until June 13 at Marlborough Street Court. Mr Steven Carr, another Scottish supporter, charged with causing actual bodily harm to a policeman during the same incident was also granted bail of £2,000.

Mr Mark Irvine, an Edinburgh teenager, was fined £50 at Marlborough Street after pleading guilty to the charge of disorderly conduct.

Mr Anthony Little, a Carlisle fan, was remanded in custody by Kendal magistrates after being charged with causing grievous bodily harm to Scottish fans at Killingtoun Service Station. A further 18 fans are expected to face charges after the incident.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

TUC ultimatum for electricians

The TUC is poised to expel the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union from the movement in July. Its "inner cabinet" gave the union until tomorrow to accept rulings by the TUC disputes committee on the electricians' policy of signing single-union deals over the heads of other member unions. The dispute was over deals signed by the electricians at Orion Electronics' factory in Port Talbot and at the Christian Salvesen plants at Warrington and Brentford.

If the electricians do not give an undertaking to accept the decisions of the disputes committee, next month's meeting of the general council will suspend them from the TUC.

Yesterday's meeting of the finance and general purposes committee also decided to issue a public censure at the TUC Congress in September against the electricians over their recruitment policy at News International during the Wapping dispute. The union's leaders have refused to appear before tomorrow's meeting of the general council to accept censure.

Jaguar plant opened

A former 1930s aircraft fuselage factory at Whitley, Coventry, which has been converted by Jaguar into a £55 million high technology engineering and styling centre, was yesterday formally opened by Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. More than a hundred engineers will work in the centre, which is finished in white and green, Jaguar's racing colours. New models will be designed there on computer-aided terminals. In a test rig workshop the size of an aircraft hangar, every part of a car is subjected to an arduous 12-year life in weeks.

Tube sales defy ban

Cigarettes and matches are still on sale in Tube stations in spite of a total ban on smoking in the wake of the King's Cross fire. Mr John Drinkwater, QC, counsel for the Fire Brigade, told the ongoing disaster inquiry yesterday. Mr William Clarke, Underground operations director, said: "It isn't a matter of sales, it's a matter of law". An Underground spokeswoman said the legal problem over cigarette sales was a difficulty in changing contracts with kiosk operators. The fire, in which 31 people died, is believed to have been started by a lit match being dropped on a wooden escalator.

Alarm over debts

Spiralling debt problems in Britain are so bad that advice bureaux are being forced to lock their doors and turn people away. Mrs Elizabeth Filkin, director of the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux said yesterday that debt affected all areas of Britain and more people were turning to loan sharks. She appealed for more help from industry to cope with debt problems amounting to £500 million annually. Mrs Filkin was speaking at the launch of a £140,000 Barclaycard scheme in Liverpool's Toxteth area that will advise people with financial problems.

Road works defended

The decision to start road works on the Spaghetti junction section of the M6 close to Birmingham at the start of the holiday season was defended by Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, yesterday. He said it was essential to complete resurfacing of the elevated section of the motorway before the motor show at the National Exhibition Centre in October.

Gibraltar delay

The Gibraltar inquiry into the shooting of three IRA terrorists by SAS officers in March has been postponed from June 27, because a carnival is taking place in Gibraltar on that day, and it would be impossible to police both events. The inquiry may now not take place until August.

Kasparov secures easy victory in chess round

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

After two rest days, Gary Kasparov, world champion, returned to the fray on Sunday with renewed vigour in the European options tournament in Amsterdam.

Playing white against John van der Wiel (of The Netherlands), Kasparov (USSR) scored an easy win, forcing a resignation in 45 moves.

Anatoly Karpov (USSR), playing his favourite Caro-Kann defence, drew with Jan Timman (The Netherlands).

Scores after round seven: Kasparov 5 points, Karpov 4, Timman 3½, van der Wiel 1½.

The results in the quarter-final of the British Schools Chess Championship, sponsored by *The Times*, were: Abingdon School 4, King Edward VI, Camp Hill Birmingham 2, Antrim Grammar School, Northern Ireland 3½, Truro School 2½, Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall 4, Hymers School, Hull 2, St Paul's School, London 4, Brentwood School 2.

The semi-finals and finals of will be played at the Charing Cross Hotel, central London, on Thursday July 7 and Friday July 8.

Third football hooligan case is dropped

By Stewart Tandler
Crime Reporter

A third Scotland Yard undercover operation against alleged London football hooligans collapsed yesterday as no evidence was offered against five men linked to Millwall Football Club.

However, another prosecution in the case, launched by the British Transport Police rather than the Metropolitan Police, will go ahead.

The Yard said in a statement that it had been impossible for a team set up last Thursday to review all football hooligan cases to examine the case before the trial started yesterday.

The charges had been dropped, out of fairness to all concerned, to allow the other prosecution to continue. "Without being able to complete the review, and in the light of current publicity, it was felt that an impartial trial would have been impossible," the statement said.

Charges against 24 alleged football hooligans have been dropped in the past two weeks. The first two cases, involving West Ham United and Chelsea supporters, were investigated by the same police team using similar methods.

The case yesterday was brought by a different police team involved in an investigation called Operation Dirty Den. They did not use the same methods of recording evidence. Two men were jailed last month as a result of the operation and four were acquitted. Another seven are awaiting trial.

Ten defendants pleaded not guilty yesterday to charges of making an affray at New Cross railway station, south-east London, in November 1986. Two were charged with assault causing actual bodily harm.

Five of the 10 were charged with conspiracy to fight and make an affray and conspiracy to assault between August 1986 and January last year.

Mr Alan Suckling, QC, for the Crown, said the evidence of undercover officers referred to three of the defendants who were alleged to have admitted to their part in the affray. The issue in the case was whether they were correctly identified. There were denials from defendants that they were there or had taken part.

Mr Suckling said that in the conspiracy cases there were a number of private witnesses giving evidence of various types of disorder. However, he said: "The real evidence against the defendants is provided by officers working undercover."

Investigations into logs and "trigger notes" made by undercover officers were being investigated. Mr Suckling said: "The officers here are not from the same team as those in the West Ham and Chelsea cases. They did not make any logs. The notes... were in the form of statements made on return to the police station."

Papers in the present case had been

under investigation at the weekend. Mr Suckling said: "I have this morning received instructions that certain matters have come to the notice of this investigation that require further investigation."

"That being so it would plainly not be right for me at this stage to put before the court the evidence of the undercover officers without it being further investigated."

Three hours later, after an adjournment, Mr Suckling told the court: "I have had further instructions containing further information. I don't think it would be right to ask for more time to deal with the matter and we propose no evidence."

One defendant, Raymond Pallen, aged 30, unemployed, of Bermondsey, south-east London, was freed after Mr Suckling said he had been identified by an officer who had made a statement saying he was less certain.

The case continues today.

Move to put oil chiefs on oath

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Senior Shell executives may be asked to give evidence to MPs under oath when a Commons committee tomorrow attempts to establish the truth of allegations of widespread petrol price fixing by the big oil companies.

For a select committee to put witnesses on oath is virtually unprecedented. It last happened in 1976-77 during an inquiry into alleged links between three MPs and the John Poulson property scandal.

In the present case, members of the all-party trade and industry committee are convinced that they have been lied to either by the oil companies, or by the Petrol Retailers Association and the two Lancashire garage owners who have made the allegations.

The MPs have decided to recall all three sets of witnesses on a single morning to question them about their previous evidence, and Dr John Gifford, MP for Dudley East, the senior Labour member of the committee, will propose before the meeting that all the witnesses should be asked to take an oath.

If the proposal is accepted, the oath will be administered by the committee clerk and the witnesses will be face perjury charges if they do not tell the truth. The Shell witnesses will be Dr Jaap Klotzwijk, managing director of Shell UK Oil, Mr John Bamberg, the retail manager, and Mr Nick Paterson, retail sales manager.

The committee's inquiry has found that the big oil companies regularly sell each other petrol to save on delivery costs. The MPs are convinced that they are looking at a "can of worms".

The Petrol Retailers' Association, representing 8,000 filling stations, and the two garage owners, Mr Eric Dunkerley and his son Karl, have told the committee of a whole range of ways in which they say the big oil companies foster the illusion of competition but in fact eliminate it.

Shell strenuously denies the "unsubstantiated" allegations, refuting the association's evidence point by point and dismissing the Dunkerleys' evidence as being so full of inaccuracies that it was unworthy of comment.

The company said: "Shell does not conduct its business in the way it has been represented to the committee."

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of the Office of Fair Trading, has hinted strongly to the committee that he is preparing to call in the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to investigate the alleged petrol price fixing.

By the Times Staff
Australia \$1.25; Belgium 1.50; Canada 1.50; Cyprus 1.50; Denmark 1.50; France 1.50; Germany 1.50; Greece 1.50; Hong Kong 1.50; India 1.50; Ireland 1.50; Italy 1.50; Japan 1.50; Korea 1.50; Luxembourg 1.50; Malaysia 1.50; Mexico 1.50; Netherlands 1.50; New Zealand 1.50; Norway 1.50; Portugal 1.50; Singapore 1.50; South Africa 1.50; Spain 1.50; Sweden 1.50; Switzerland 1.50; Taiwan 1.50; Thailand 1.50; USA 1.50; West Germany 1.50.

Judges rule DPP acted illegally on screening

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Alan Green QC, has acted unlawfully as head of the Crown Prosecution Service in allowing non-qualified clerks to screen cases for prosecution, the High Court ruled yesterday.

In a judgement which comes as a blow to the hard-pressed service, Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Kennedy ruled that a scheme to allow clerks to screen cases to see if they should go to trial was in breach of the "main purpose" of the Prosecution of Offences Act, 1985 under which the service was set up, and which envisaged that only lawyers would review cases for trial, Lord Justice Watkins said.

It was also in breach of the intentions of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure which "clearly envisaged" that in every case, after the police had taken the initial decision to prosecute, it would go for review by an independent lawyer.

"In our judgement this scheme is ultra vires because it can result in many cases not being dealt with by the Crown Prosecution Service in accordance with the Act", Lord Justice Watkins said. Some cases would never see a lawyer at all. Mr John Laws, counsel for the DPP, had argued that only lawyers, and not the case-screeners, took the decision to "discontinue" cases.

The judge said, however, "you cannot wholly divorce a decision to discontinue from a decision to allow a prosecution to proceed".

The case was brought by the union for the lawyers in the Crown Prosecution Service, the First Division Association, which challenged the

legality of the "case-screening" scheme, now in force in a number of areas of the service. The judges said the DPP had so organized his functions that the non-qualified executive officers carried out "an initial acceptance review".

"In allowing that decision to accept certain cases to be taken only by the case-screeners and without reference to a crown prosecutor the director has acted unlawfully", Lord Justice Watkins said. "If an accused pleaded guilty, and the screener decided the case could continue, it would never go to a crown prosecutor."

In the context of the service's workload that case might be insignificant, but to the accused individual it was a "matter of great concern". The judges said they did not regret arriving at their decision, seeing that one of the main aims of the 1985 Act was to "bring an independent legal mind to bear on each prosecution".

Under the scheme law clerks have been screening summary cases, mainly traffic offences. But there were plans to cover other offences such as simple theft, which can be tried either by magistrates or at the crown court.

In a statement, the DPP's office said the implications were being considered to see if an appeal should be lodged. It said: "The CPS attaches the highest importance to the principle of independent review by lawyers of charges brought by the police. Preliminary case-screening by trained executive officers was not introduced with the intention of departing from that principle."

Actor fights over son



Peter O'Toole, the actor, and Miss Karen Somerville, his former girl friend, outside the High Court in London yesterday. Miss Somerville, an American model, claims that Mr O'Toole is denying her access to their son, Larcen, aged five, over whom they have joint custody. The actor brought the boy to Britain five weeks ago. The hearing before Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, is likely to continue until Wednesday.

NEC challenge on policy

Nuclear test for Kinnock

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour leader, is to face a challenge tomorrow from some of his closest allies to suggestions that he is preparing to soften the party's anti-nuclear stance on defence.

The internal Labour Party controversy over defence is likely to be reopened with Mr David Blunkett, MP, one of the leading figures on the mainstream pro-Kinnock left, set to argue at a meeting of the national executive that there must be no retreat from the party's non nuclear-line.

The executive is meeting to approve the first reports from the seven policy groups set up last autumn. Mr Blunkett is to table amendments to the key paper on international policy establishing the principle that Labour should not accept the

"nuclear umbrella" of the United States.

The move marks the first serious challenge to the leadership line since the policy review process began.

Mr Blunkett, MP for Sheffield, Brightside, is assured of backing from the far left, and if enough of his colleagues on the soft left support him serious inroads will be made into Mr Kinnock's normally impenetrable majority on the executive.

Mr Blunkett said: "We need to make it clear that we hold to the belief that nuclear weapons do not provide for peace and that they represent a danger to the existence of humanity."

Suspensions among the left that the leadership is preparing big modifications on de-

fence policy have grown in recent weeks.

The policy review group on international affairs devoted only four paragraphs of a 12-page report to nuclear defence. Labour's policy has been seen as big vote-loser.

It was always expected that the review of nuclear policy would take place next year.

However, the review group's failure to spell out existing policy on cancelling Trident, decommissioning Polaris and removing all American nuclear bases has fuelled far left claims that a U-turn is in prospect.

The leadership is likely tomorrow to oppose amendments which would be seen as pre-empting the policy review group as it embarks on its second phase next year.

Job discrimination against Catholics

Ulster firms face sanctions

By Paul Valley

Government contracts will be withheld from employers in Northern Ireland who refuse to comply with new legislation to curb job discrimination against Roman Catholics.

Employers will be obliged to report those statistics regularly to a new body, the Fair Employment Commission, which will have the power to take legal action against those which do not.

The final sanction against recalcitrant firms will be "contract compliance", which will see offenders declared ineligible for most government grants and contracts.

Non-compliance will not be restricted merely to failing to monitor and report, but will cover firms which are considered not to be taking effective action to remedy an imbalance in their workforce.

The White Paper also proposes the establishment of Fair Employment Tribunals, to work within existing industrial tribunal machinery, to

hear individual complaints of discrimination.

Discrimination in employment is one of the crucial areas of complaint among the province's Roman Catholics.

In 1968, when the Civil Rights movement began, Catholic men were two-and-a-half times more likely to be unemployed than Protestants. Today, in spite of several government reports and the introduction of codes of practice, Catholics are still more than twice as likely to be without a job.

The problem has been tackled in the public sector. According to Mr Robert Cooper, chairman of the Fair Employment Agency set up in 1976, Catholics now have their fair share of jobs in the Civil Service, and in the private service sector, but are denied them in much of the manufacturing sector, with 32 per cent unemployment among Catholic men.

Police seek release of Wapping riot pictures

By Michael Horswell

The Police Complaints Authority took legal action yesterday to force photographers to hand over unpublished film of riots outside the News International plant at Wapping, east London.

Chief Supt David Wyrko, of the Northamptonshire Police, who is investigating complaints and allegations about police behaviour, said the film would help "establish the truth" of what happened.

He is applying for orders to force *The Independent*, *The Observer*, *Mail on Sunday*, *ITN*, *Thames Television* and four freelance photographers to hand over unpublished material of the riots in January last year.

However, Mr Justice Allott was told at the Central Criminal Court that photographers would face bigger risks at demonstrations if they were regarded as police spies.

The police inquiry, ordered by Sir Kenneth Newman, for-

mer Metropolitan Police Commissioner, came after clashes resulting in injuries to more than 300 people, including 167 officers. A team of 20 legal observers blamed police for the casualties.

Chief Supt Wyrko told the court that more than 440 complaints and allegations, including assault, wounding, grievous bodily harm, indecent assault and perjury, had been investigated.

The case continues today. The High Court quashed yesterday an inquest jury's verdict that a youth aged 19 was unlawfully killed by a TNT lorry carrying News International newspapers during the Wapping dispute.

Lord Justice Parker, sitting with Mr Justice Nolan, allowed an application for judicial review by Mr Robert Higgins, the lorry driver. They ruled that Dr Douglas Chambers, the St Pancras coroner, had misdirected the jury.

Key Briton preaches European 'new religion'

By Michael Dynes

Britain must look beyond the image of ringing cash registers when anticipating the benefits from the creation of the European internal market by 1992, according to Mr David Williamson, the British secretary general of the European Commission.

"In Britain there is rather a heavy concentration on the internal market as what I would call a cash register operation. It is much more than that," Mr Williamson said, in what observers interpreted as an implied criticism of the scope of the Government's "Europe Open for Business" campaign.

Mr Williamson, who took up his new post last October, was in London to review the achievements of the present European Commission, whose current term of office expires at the end of the year. He was commission deputy director for agriculture between 1977 and 1983, and head of the European secretariat in the Cabinet office between 1983 and 1987. He is the first Briton to be appointed as the EEC's leading Civil Servant.

He said that all the big goals of the present commission, such as negotiating the accession of Spain and Portugal, establishing a fixed timetable for the completion of the internal market, securing ratification of the Single European Act, and

putting the EEC's finances on a sound footing, had all been achieved.

He described the 1992 programme as "a new form of religion sweeping across Europe", and said that all efforts were being focused on completing the internal market process by the deadline.

Decisions on the liberalization of capital movements, mutual recognition of diplomas, and progress on opening up public procurement to cross-frontier competition, were all expected before the end of the German presidency in July, he said, but member states must not lose sight of the internal market programme's accompanying objectives, particularly

in the fields of environmental policy, research and development, social policy and regional development.

According to a National Opinion Poll telephone survey, conducted between May 13 and 15, only 22 per cent of adults realize that 1992 involves the removal of EEC trade barriers, leading to the creation of the European single market, although 41 per cent are aware that "something" is going on.

The report confirms that Britain, in comparison with some EEC countries where levels of awareness are reported to be as high as 90 per cent, "is falling behind in the race to be ready for the new Europe".

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Holiday complaint resolved

Fuel surcharges are to be abolished on package trips

By David Sapsed and Shona Crawford Poole

The Government unveiled plans last night to abolish almost all fuel surcharges on package holidays — one of the primary complaints of Britons who, according to an EEC survey, are the most dissatisfied holidaymakers in Europe.

Mr John Bunch, Minister for Industry and Consumer Affairs, said he had reached agreement with the Association of British Travel Agents to do away with 90 per cent of the surcharges on summer holidays in 1989.

Although exact details of the agreement will remain secret until all members of the association have been informed, it is known that an interim measure will involve 20 leading members of the association submitting their surcharge calculations to the Office of Fair Trading and agreeing to spot checks to ensure that holidaymakers are not unfairly charged.

The Government is also considering throwing its weight behind a directive from the European Commission

If a dream holiday turns into a nightmare, travellers may have a claim for compensation. However, it will cost time and money. (Our Legal Affairs Correspondent writes).

"You cannot get your holiday back, but you may have a right to redress," the Consumer Association says. It advises travellers to protest if changes are made to their plans before departure, keep written records of any complaints, and claim compensation

from their tour operator for the proportion of holiday spoilt.

Complaining to the Association of British Travel Agents, arbitration and court action are also possibilities.

Holidaymakers who want advice on compensation should approach their solicitor, citizen's advice bureau or the Which? personal service (subscription-based) at 14 Buckingham Street, London WC2 6DS.

such things as sub-standard hotels or postponed airline flights, but any move the commission makes to improve the situation is welcome," the Consumers' Association said.

It accepts that most complaints from the almost 12.5 million Britons who took package holidays last year were at the bargain-basement end of the market and feels the commission's directive would help to clear up the legal predicament which unhappy

British holidaymakers too often find themselves in.

"The directive would make travel companies directly responsible for the level of service they provide rather than pass the buck to the airline or hotel."

ABTA said last-minute holidays no longer accounted for a disproportionately high number of complaints.

An estimated 15 per cent more British holidaymakers took foreign packages last year, taking the total to 12,226,000. The travel association dealt with 15,328 complaints about the holidays, a 22 per cent increase on the previous year. However, complaints about cheap last-minute deals dropped from 6 per cent of the 1986 total to 4 per cent of last summer's cases.

Public opposition to fuel surcharges has dominated the subjects in ABTA's postbag this year, and has brought comment from MPs and the Office of Fair Trading.

Nurses welcome Moore changes



Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, exchanging views before his speech to the Royal College of Nursing Congress yesterday in Brighton, where he announced improved conditions (Photograph: Harry Kerr) Training, page 5

Judge praises heroic seven who foiled gems raid

Two shop assistants squirted armed robbers with ammonia after they filled dustbin bags with jewellery, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Miss Tina Corps and Mrs Jane Grogg were among seven people awarded a total of £1,250 by Judge Cooch who praised their "extraordinary courage".

The raiders' £80,000 spree ended when they attacked VFM Goldsmith in Tooting, south London. Mr Martin Heslop, for the prosecution, said Miss Corps, aged 21, grabbed a squeaky bottle full of ammonia and blinded

Rexton McKrieth in the face from 10 ft.

McKrieth, aged 22, who was carrying a loaded revolver, and his accomplice Trevor Morris dropped two bags of jewels and ran. But Mrs Grogg, aged 20, flipped a security switch and trapped the two robbers between the security and exit doors.

Then Mr Ravindra Saravan, aged 33, smashed a hole in the door to allow the assistants to squirt the robbers with the ammonia. The robbers smashed their way out into the street carrying a bag containing £27,000 in jewels.

Mr Christopher White, aged 56, and Mr Terence Sykes, aged 59, tried to rugby tackle the fleeing bandits. Mrs Gwen Flowers, aged 59, a shopper who was carrying a camera, began taking photographs of the robbers.

McKrieth hobbled into a derelict house that was being renovated by Mr Mark Harris, aged 25.

McKrieth begged the plasterer to help him, claiming he had been in a car crash, but Mr Harris noticed the gun and alerted PC Tim Gargan. The unarmed officer confronted the gun-

man and arrested him.

McKrieth, unemployed of Bramfield Road, Battersea, and Trevor Morris, aged 22, of Lowden Road, Herne Hill, were each jailed for nine years. Roy Marshall, aged 22, the getaway driver, of East Road, Wimbledon, south-west London, was given eight years.

Morris and Marshall both admitted five robberies, one attempted robbery and possessing imitation firearms. McKrieth admitted three robberies and possessing firearms.

Attacker gets six years

A teenage thug who crippled a professional football apprentice for life in a knife attack was sentenced at Snaresbrook Crown Court in London yesterday to six years youth custody.

Glenn Fielder, aged 17, of Hampton Road, Chingford, Essex, now wheelchair-bound, was one of Leyton Orient's brightest prospects when he was stabbed in the back after being pinned against a wall by a gang.

The court was told that his

attacker, Paul Bunce, also aged 17, stood over his body and gloated: "I don't care if he dies".

Bunce, a labourer, of Coventry Road, Ilford, was found guilty by a jury of causing an affray and unlawful wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Anthony Bannister, aged 18, a trainee fitter, of Lancaster Road, Walthamstow, who jumped on the victim's face and chest, was sentenced to six months youth custody.

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There was only one winner of the daily prize for Portfolio yesterday. Mr John Phillips, of St James Road, Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, collects £4,000.

Hunt ball violence

Musicians 'attacked guests'

Dinner-jacketed guests were attacked with fists, bottles, an iron bar and a towel rail by two musicians as a hunt ball ended in violence, a court was told yesterday. One guest was smashed about the head, shoulder and legs with an iron microphone stand, it was alleged.

Three other guests were injured, Mr Geoffrey Mercer, for the prosecution, told Exeter Crown Court. Two were hit over the head with bottles.

Police were called to Tiverton Foxhounds Hunt Ball as guests let down a van tyre to try to prevent the musicians — Michael McCloy and his brother, Simon — leaving.

Michael McCloy, aged 28, of Iolanthe Drive, Exeter, whose stage name is Mike Rivers, denies assaulting Mr George Peregrine Dal Cazenove, causing him actual

bodily harm, and wounding Mr Gny Lister with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Mr Mercer said Simon McCloy was also involved but the jury need only concern itself with his brother. He said the annual dance, held in a marquee at Ravenswood School, in the village of Stoodleigh, Devon, was ending at 3am last July 19 when Michael McCloy, a singer and guitarist, accused Mr Dal Cazenove of interfering with his musical equipment.

They agreed to fight a duel in which Mr Dal Cazenove was "hit on the head with a bottle, punched, kicked and pushed towards a window by this defendant and probably by his brother as well". Mr Mercer said Mr Dal Cazenove had a bruised arm and cheek and a cut head.

Another guest, Mr Edward

Heath, aged 21, was attacked by Simon McCloy and hit over the head with a bottle, Mr Mercer said. Simon McCloy armed himself with a wooden towel rail and his brother wielded the heavy microphone stand at the entrance to the school.

Mr Ian Leadbetter, for the defence, suggested that Mr Dal Cazenove, an investment broker, of Gaskarth Road, Fulham, south-west London, was loud, offensive, unpleasant, arrogant, boorish, bullish and "reckless of aggression".

"It had been a long night, many drinks had passed down your throat and at the end of the evening your bow tie was undone and you were dishevelled," said Mr Leadbetter. Mr Dal Cazenove replied: "My bow tie was not undone. It's a matter of decorum always."

The case continues today.

Insurers criticize statistics on Aids

By David Sapsed

Insurance companies preparing to load life insurance premiums for young people because of Aids yesterday accused the medical profession of masking mortality rates for the disease.

One of the country's largest assurance companies said doctors were "deliberately lying" about causes of death, and the Association of British Insurers admitted that companies were encountering difficulties in the search for statistics on the disease.

"We think that between £9 million to £10 million has so far been paid by insurers on Aids-related deaths, but it is very much a 'guesstimate'. We simply do not know what the statistics are," the association said.

The picture within the assurance industry is confusing. In a few cases, premiums for young males under 35 have doubled. The Prudential has just raised premiums for that group by 30 per cent; the Commercial Union is about to introduce policies under which there is a 40 per cent discount for young people who take out a policy which excludes the disease as a cause

of death, and many other firms are undecided.

Yesterday, the Norwich Union said it would ask applicants whether they had undergone Aids blood tests, and expected premiums to rise in the summer.

"The only certain thing about Aids is that its future is uncertain", Mr Mark Daniel, technical manager of Equitable Life, said.

Insurers are faced with a double dilemma: on one hand, the Institute of Actuaries has recently produced figures estimating that Aids deaths in the UK could reach 100,000 by 1998 — a figure based on the disease remaining within the homosexual community. On the other hand, insurers believe that doctors are not providing accurate statistics.

"Nobody actually dies from Aids; they die from diseases which, because of Aids, their immune systems cannot handle. Perhaps out of kindness towards the deceased's family, deaths are being put down to pneumonia, or whatever. It is playing havoc with our attempts to assess Aids on a statistical basis", an executive at one of country's biggest insurance companies said.

Property 'cauldron' bubbling

By Christopher Warrman Property Correspondent

House prices increased by up to 30 per cent in the Hereford area in the past 12 months and are rising by 40 per cent a year in East Anglia, estate agents report in a survey published today by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

They are examples of the continuing boom in property, which has steadily been gaining in value since January. It leads the institution to conclude that "the property cauldron is bubbling and house prices show signs of simmering down".

The survey for the quarter to April 30 says prices are on the move again in London and many areas of the South-east, with demand as high as ever. Shortages in many areas have fuelled the increases. While there has been some resistance to prices at the top end of the market, there is no evidence of lower prices.

Of the 117 estate agents contributing to the survey, more than 30 per cent reported increases of more than 8 per cent, much higher than for the previous period. More than a quarter reported increases of more than 5 per cent.

Millionaire leaves fortune to cats

By Ruth Gledhill

A multi-millionaire who lived the life of a recluse has left the bulk of his fortune, estimated at several million pounds, to cats.

Mr Ben Rea, aged 82, a retired antiques dealer who made his fortune by investing in property, died of a suspected heart attack on May 8. He lived at Taplow, Buckinghamshire. His properties and their contents are being valued for sale.

Most of the proceeds will go to three cat charities, including the Cats Protection

League. Small sums are to go to his gardener, accountant, plumber and mechanic, and he also wrote off a £9,000 debt owed by his properties manager.

The announcement of Mr Rea's will comes just a month after Mrs Dorothy Walker, aged 90, left £2.7 million to the Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals to look after her cat, Pussy.

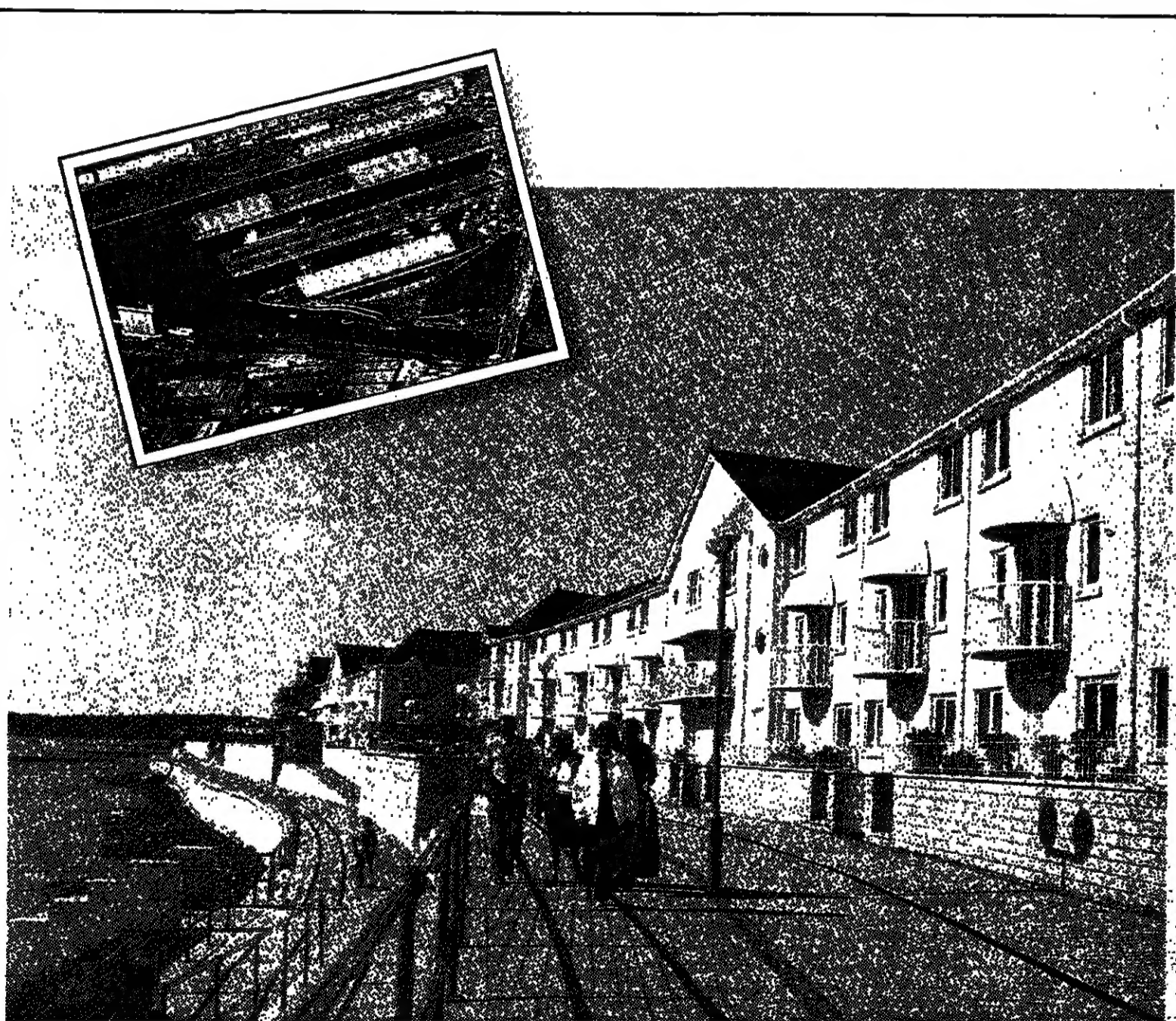
Mr Rea had given a clue to his intentions when he told his properties manager, Mr Ken Randolph, that Mrs Walker's

bequest "would seem like a drop in the ocean".

Mr Randolph said: "Good luck to him. He thought the world of his cats. He preferred cats to humans. He is probably looking down on us all now with a great smile on his face."

He moved to Taplow from London after one of his 15 cats was run over and killed, but only one, Blackie, lived long enough to survive him and is now being cared for by relatives in Cheshire.

Other will, page 16



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Hurd starts private sector plan to fight crime rate increase

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, launched an independent national crime prevention organization, Crime Concern, yesterday.

Private companies are expected to donate millions of pounds to the scheme in the next five years. The Government has provided an initial outlay of £500,000.

Mr Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive of Woolworth Holdings Plc, which sponsored the launch, said his company had a special responsibility to millions of customers.

"They have a right to be able to shop in a safe and secure environment and we have a duty to help provide that environment."

There was also a responsibility to staff, he said. Last year, 60 Woolworth employees suffered serious attacks by criminals and required hospital treatment. Many others were victims of minor assaults.

The retail trade alone was estimated to lose more than £1.5 billion each year from crime, a 50 per cent rise since 1980, Mr Mulcahy said.

Mr Steven Norris, chairman of Crime Concern, said he

expected the organization to have a budget of between £1 million and £2 million in two or three years' time, and double or treble that amount in five years, provided by the private sector. He was confident that the organization would have little trouble attracting support.

Mr Norris, formerly a Conservative MP for Oxford East, said: "It is the crime on our doorstep that we can do something about." The organization's main targets were theft, vandalism and mugging.

Every day, more than 1,000 cars were stolen in Britain—almost as many as Austin Rover made. In England and Wales, one home was burgled every minute. During the hour of yesterday's official launch, he said, more than £300,000 worth of goods would be stolen from British shops.

In its first year, Crime Concern aims to attract sponsorship from industry, develop Neighbourhood Watch schemes, expand voluntary crime-prevention panels with local communities, promote programmes, with companies participating, to help protect communities, and create schemes to divert

young people from crime.

A 12-member Crime Concern advisory board has been established with police forces, voluntary organizations, local authorities and blue-chip companies represented.

The board includes Sir Stanley Bailey, Chief Constable of Northumbria, Mr Tony Berry, of Blue Arrow Plc, and Mr Tim Clement-Jones, secretary of Woolworth Holdings.

Mr Berry said his company was particularly interested in projects that would keep young people off the streets. Statistically, a third of all crimes are committed by people under 16.

Mr Hurd said Crime Concern was an independent and "furiously active" body that could act as a clearing house and publicist for good crime-prevention practices. "Crime Concern can be the channel through which experience can be shared to good effect," he said.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, said he hoped it would be an umbrella organization helping to turn Neighbourhood Watch into "Nation Watch".

Caring hands rescue an owlet



Miss Clair Nuttall, a keeper at London Zoo, cradling Spike, a North American great horned owl being hand reared because of his mother's aggression. Spike's daily diet consists of seven vitamin-soaked mice (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Drunk driver is jailed for killing barmaid

An aircraft fitter was jailed for three years yesterday for running down and killing a barmaid he had befriended while celebrating his birthday. Mr Anthony Donne, QC, for the prosecution, told Bristol Crown Court that Graham Goodman, aged 26, was celebrating at the Bidgood Arms, on the A30 between Honiton and Exeter, Devon, on November 27 last year. He said Goodman was seen with his arms around the barmaid, Miss Lucy Wickham, aged 30. Later, as Miss Wickham pushed her bicycle home with another man, Goodman's car had careered into her, killing her instantly. Goodman had driven on but then drove back past the accident spot. Mr Justice Swinton Thomas said he accepted that

Goodman, of Salford, Greater Manchester, had shown remorse. He also banned him from driving for three years. Mr Terry Dicks, Conservative MP for Hayes and Harlington, said yesterday: "The judge who handed down that ludicrous sentence does not have the right or enough of the public's confidence to sit on the bench."

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Russians examine Porton Down gear

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

British nerve gas and chemical weapons scientists will show early warning equipment and protective suits to their Russian counterparts over the next two days.

The Ministry of Defence is opening the secret Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down, Wiltshire, to a team led by Ambassador Yuriy Nazarkin, chief Soviet negotiator to the Geneva Conference on Disarmament.

The UK Government regards the visit as an exercise in building confidence if a chemical weapons ban is to be achieved. An MoD team will visit Russia this year.

Talks this week will focus on the protective measures devised by Porton Down, where production and stockpiling of all nerve gases and chemical weapons were abandoned unilaterally by the UK 30 years ago.

Research continues into potential chemical and biological weapons.

The Soviet Union has yet to disclose the size of its arsenal, although Nato estimates it is between 20,000 and 50,000 tons of gas-filled shells, bombs and missiles warheads.

The United States has developed a new type of gas weapon that could replace its stockpiled chemical arsenal.

Sale of 28 human heads cancelled

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

Christie's South Kensington has cancelled its sale of the largest collection of human heads offered at auction.

Its decision comes as a result of the uproar caused by opposition to the proposed sale by Bonhams of a single Maori head. The High Court last week blocked the sale pending a plea for possession by the Maori people.

According to Hermione Waterfield, Christie's tribal expert, none of her 28 heads was of Maori or Aborigine people, but the climate resulting from the Maori incident "created an atmosphere which is not favourable to our vendors". The sale was scheduled for June 28.

Estimated at a total of £30,000, the heads were from the Amazon basin, Papua New Guinea and Peru, and were acquired mostly in Paris and New York by a Swiss collector during the 1960s and 1970s.

They had been preserved for three functions: as trophies, usually shrunken and slung to warriors' belts; ancestor skulls, venerated by descendants who believed they contained the wisdom of their departed elders; and shrunken Europeans, such as missionaries and their children, presumably slaughtered by tribesmen.

"The whole thing is very irritating," Miss Waterfield said. "We've got a huge advert in the French press, and we're getting a lot of interest."

Timber may show date of Edward II's palace

By Boris Johnson

The discovery of timber supports near the "Rosary" palace of King Edward II may help to determine the exact date of the building, archaeologists said yesterday.

Two walls of a stone building, which is believed to have been the royal residence, were found on an urban development site at Hay's Wharf, south London.

The timber includes stakes and planks, which served as winking at two inlets, as well as wooden revetments supporting the palace moat.

The find shows how the Thames has shifted since the Middle Ages. Trading and wharf facilities at the time were much greater than had been suspected.

The only documentary evidence of the Rosary dates it to 1325, two years before Edward II was killed at Berkeley Castle. He would have had little time to use it as a retreat, as it has been described.

Dr Colin Lucas, of Balliol College, Oxford, said: "Edward II is reputed to have led a life of wine and song with his catamite Piers Gaveston. But if 1325 is correct, that could hardly have taken place in this building since Gaveston was executed in 1312."

Archaeologists at the Museum of London are also hoping to excavate the foundations of a house which belonged to the fifteenth century figure, Sir John Falstaff, model for Shakespeare's Falstaff.

Privatized water firms 'forced to make cuts'

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

A significant proportion of the water rates in England and Wales used to replace underground pipes and sewers will be diverted after privatization into profits and dividends for the water companies, a senior analyst says.

To meet profit forecasts on which privatization will be based, companies will have to siphon off up to 25 per cent of household payments. Only by cuts in spending on water storage tanks, mains, sewers and pollution controls can they balance their books.

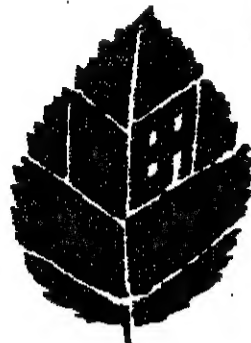
The analyst, Mr Stanley William Hill, of Arthur Collins and Company, said current water and sewerage investment levels will be maintained only if water rates are increased or water com-

panies start to borrow heavily. Mr Hill, writing in *Public Finance and Accountancy*, the journal of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, says privatization threatens the maintenance of sewers and water supply equipment.

Under public control, the revenue from household water bills goes on administration or reinvestment. After privatization, companies will have to find money for dividends. Mr Hill estimates that sum at £400 million. Another £360 million will be needed for taxation and higher directors' fees.

The calculations depend on assumptions about how far the Government will write off the authorities' £4.9 billion debt.

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Shake-up in training recruits

Moore allows entry to nurses with vocational credits

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Plans to revolutionize nurse training were announced by Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday.

To a standing ovation from delegates at the Royal College of Nursing congress in Brighton, Mr Moore said that student nurses would no longer be regarded as "a pair of hands" and would be given full student status with non means test bursaries.

He also announced that, because of their new status, student nurses would be eligible for the full 80 per cent rebate on the poll tax.

However, Mr Moore disclosed that a new unqualified nurse helper would take on a larger share of nursing duties under supervision.

It is likely that the next few years will see a smaller professional workforce backed up by a larger team of support workers. Both groups would be culled from a variety of backgrounds, including more mature recruits and those with vocational instead of academic qualifications.

Those could include holders of certificates or credits from the new National Council for Vocational Qualifications.

The reforms, heralded as the "biggest change in nursing in Britain since Florence Nightingale", will replace the two-year courses for enrolled nurses and three-year courses for registered general nurses with a combined three-year course.

Student nurses will still

Health is the most important public issue in Britain today, outranking crime, unemployment and education, according to a survey (Thomson Prentice writes).

Cuts in the health service are more worrying to people than Aids, cancer and coronary heart disease, and smoking is the biggest risk factor in influencing health, the survey by the National Opinion Poll for the Health Education Authority found.

Public interest in Aids has dropped, even among the "target" 16-to-24 age group, the survey showed.

Consumer Health Education Survey (NOP Market Research, Tower House, Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HN; £5).

work in wards to get clinical experience but they are expected to do less unsupervised work. Mr Moore said that he hoped the "first" training courses would be in place next year.

The nursing profession has costed the proposals at about an extra £50 million a year rising to an extra £100 million in the mid-1990s. Although refusing to accept the Government's figures, Mr Moore indicated that he would not expect health authorities to foot the bill at the expense of patient care.

Mr Moore refused to be drawn on how the entry gate for nursing would be widened to attract those with fewer academic qualifications.

However, he made it clear that the new streamlined professional training would have to be traded for agreement over this and the new support worker.

The reforms, put forward 15 months ago by the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing and Midwifery, would mean that nurses would take a common 18-month foundation programme with a further 18 months in one of specialist branch programmes: general nursing, children's nursing, nursing of the mentally ill and the mentally handicapped.

The amount of time students spent on formal duty rosters would be "substantially" reduced, Mr Moore said.

"Students will no longer be regarded as pairs of hands. They will no longer be thrown in at the deep end and asked to carry far more responsibility than their training and experience warrants."

At present many students find themselves working in wards with critically ill patients within weeks of the start of their training.

Last night Mr Trevor Clay, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, welcomed the announcements but made it clear that he would not be happy to see a reduced professional workforce. "Ultimately I do not think we can run the profession with fewer qualified nursing staff."

Law suit over 'currant in pudding'

By Robin Young

Mr Alan Watkins, political diarist of *The Observer* newspaper, yesterday dismissed one of his sentences in an article that gave rise to a libel action as "an interesting little aside - a currant in the sweet pudding".

The action, brought by Mr Michael Meacher, Labour spokesman on employment, is in its second week at the High Court.

Mr Watkins said he stood by his statement that Mr Meacher liked to claim he was the son of an agricultural labourer. He had described the father as an accountant to spare Mr Meacher's feelings.

"He was as much an accountant as he was a farm worker," Mr Watkins told Mr Gordon Bishop, representing Mr Meacher. "He was a would-be accountant."

Mr Watkins said he had written his article relying on a recollection of what had been written about Mr Meacher during his 1983 campaign for the Labour Party deputy leadership. He had seen numerous articles in which Mr Meacher was described as a farm worker's son, all based on interviews with Mr Meacher.

The case continues today.

Traditional touch at Chelsea

By Alan Toogood
Horticulture Correspondent

The Chelsea Flower Show has a traditional atmosphere this year as many exhibitors are celebrating its 75th anniversary by showing plants seen at the early shows.

In the extensive tree and shrub exhibit staged by Hillier's Nursery, of Winchester, Hampshire, traditional varieties include yellow *Rhododendron luteum*, pink *Rhododendron 'Goner Waterer'*, yellow-leaved *Acer japonicum 'Aurum'* and the pink-splashed climber *Actinidia kolomikta*.

Notcutt's Nursery of Woodbridge, Suffolk, has also split the tree and shrub exhibit into old and modern. It includes the new English roses which resemble well-loved old-fashioned kinds with full, highly fragrant flowers.

The Cambridge group has a large collection of herbaceous plants, shrubs and climbers, including an eye-catching group of blue *Ceanothus 'Cynthia Poston'* contrasting with the golden-yellow flowers of wall shrub *Fremontodendron 'California Glory'*.

Slough Corporation, Berkshire, with Hurst Seeds, of Witham, Essex, has staged a large pyramid of schizanthus, using the modern variety 'Monarch Mixed' in a kaleidoscope of colours.

Knap Hill Nursery, of Woking, Surrey, demonstrates that not all rhododendrons come in garish or crude colours. Many of its own varieties are in such subtle shades as 'Tortoiseshell Orange', 'Tortoiseshell Salome' (pale pink), and 'Tortoiseshell Champagne' (champagne colour).

The ground-cover roses from John Mattock, of Oxford, are comparatively new. The latest range is known as the County series, which includes red 'Suffolk' and pink 'Surrey', and is recurrent flowering.

John Chambers, of Barton Seagrave, Northamptonshire, demonstrates how wild flowers make colourful displays in borders and beds, in association with other plants. The bold groups of ox-eye daisies, cornflower, corn poppy, corn marigold and wild pansy are as colourful as any highly bred border or bedding plant.

One of the most popular summer bedding plants, the impatiens (busy Lizzie) is displayed in a large pyramid by Colegrave Seeds, of Banbury, Oxfordshire.



Elizabeth I (Liz Rothchild) accepting from Sir Francis Drake (Brian Whipp) a new rose, Armada, bred by Harkness of Hitchin, to mark the 400th anniversary of the Armada's defeat and to raise funds for Drake's former Devon home (Photograph: John Rogers)

Hostas, or plantain lilies, now rank among the most important herbaceous foliage plants and many new varieties have appeared in recent years. More than a hundred are shown by Goldbrook Plants, of Hoxne, Suffolk, including several of their own raising.

Among many new roses launched at Chelsea are 'Thora Bird', a "hand-painted" floribunda in ivory white and pink from Rosemary Roses, of Toton, Nottinghamshire. Patio roses

making their debut on that stand are salmon 'Cider Cup' and crimson 'Red Rascal'. Gregory's Roses, of Stapleford, Nottingham, are launching a fragrant golden-yellow hybrid tea named 'Terry Wogan'.

The highlight of the exhibits in the great marquee, and setting a high standard for future co-operative exhibits, is the tropical rainforest staged by Burnham Nurseries, of Newton Abbot, Devon. McBean's Orchids, of Cooksbridge, Sussex, Wyld

Court Orchids, of Newbury, Berkshire, and Anmore Exotics, of Lovedean, Hampshire.

The show, in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, is open today and tomorrow, from 8 m to 8 pm (private view for RHS members); Thursday, 8 am to 8 pm; and Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. Admission by pre-purchased ticket only (some available at gates on Thursday and Friday).

A report on the outside gardens, and results, will appear in *The Times* tomorrow.

Spending inquiry into trips by council

A public audit inquiry into alleged extravagance by Birmingham City Council went into secret session yesterday to consider whether municipal workmen had been used to dig the council leader's garden.

The inquiry comes after a two-year investigation into claims that councillors and officials wasted taxpayers' money on foreign trips, including a visit to Hong Kong in 1984 that cost £143,000.

It was called after Mr Hugh McCreevy, a Birmingham University laboratory technician, raised objections to spending on civic trips by both Labour and Conservative councillors and officials.

Mr McCreevy said that "wilful misconduct" had been involved because proper receipts for certain expenditure had not been filed. The inquiry continues today.

£625,000 damages

Mr Paul Hope, aged 24, of Luton, who communicates by eye signals and shakes of the head since being paralysed by brain damage in a road accident, is to receive £625,000 damages. The High Court awarded the agreed damages, and costs, against the car driver, Mr Trevor Kidd.

Death inquiry

A woman was found dead at home by police calling to say her daughter had been injured. Miss Ann Mitchell, aged 29, of Kingskerswell, Devon, suffered head and leg injuries when her car left the road at Labrador Bay. Her mother, Mrs Marie Mitchell, aged 50, died from neck injuries.

Hospital closed

The Cotswold Geriatric Hospital at Tetbury, Gloucestershire, was closed yesterday in spite of efforts by the Prince of Wales, who lives near by, to keep it open. The 27 patients have been sent to other hospitals in the district.

Requiem date

Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Requiem* will be played at the third Leningrad International Music Festival and he will attend the performance after visiting Moscow where he will see the final showing of *Cats*.

turns down a new approach from Bury at £30 a share in 1986, has for the second year running reported a downturn in profits.

Results for the year ended December show a pretax profit of £11.55 million against £12.59 million in 1986.

encouraged by the strength of the pound, are showing a sharply increased interest in operations in mainland Europe.

The latest figures show that their enthusiasm for the United States also remains undiminished.

But the figures, issued yesterday, showed a sharp decline in profits.

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'Take-charge' Kitty Dukakis brings sparkle to a dull campaign

From Charles Bremner
New York

If Mr Michael Dukakis wins the White House in November, America's new First Lady will soon have the protocol people longing for Nancy Reagan.

Passionate, impulsive, vivacious and volatile, everything that her over-cool husband is not, Mrs Kitty Dukakis is guaranteed to ruffle Washington sensibilities and challenge notions about the role of the President's wife.

Where Mrs Reagan moves behind the scenes and the rather maternal Mrs Barbara Bush plays the adoring helpmate, the tall, willowy Mrs Dukakis is a devoted partner who also has a mission and a manner that has earned her strong friends and foes.

As First Lady of Massachusetts for 10 of the past 14 years, the former Katherine Dickinson, daughter of a respected Boston Pops orchestra violinist, has made her controversial mark.

"She has a reputation of being overbearing — generally caused by a few incidents," according to Congressman Barney Frank, a local Democratic ally of her husband who thinks the image is unfair. "She would park her car in the

spot reserved for the minority leader... And once there was an incident where she yelled at Michael in front of people."

In another incident, Mrs Dukakis beat an airline pilot for a delay in their



Mrs Dukakis: Gamble of revealing her 26-year addiction to diet pills paid off. "She is simply a woman who will not accept being relegated to decorative

status. She will do what she wants to do," said Mr Frank.

She demonstrated the trait one day last summer, a time when most Americans were looking at the seven Democratic dwarfs and asking "Duke who?". She decided, in the face of the strategists' advice, to reveal her 26-year addiction to amphetamine diet pills and her cure in 1982. Other political wives had acknowledged alcohol troubles before, but admitting dependency on "speed", albeit in small dosage, was a gamble. It paid off. Sympathy and admiration for her courage appear to have outweighed public disapproval. The admission also bolstered her credentials as a campaigner against alcohol and drug addiction, the preferred field of interest for political wives this year.

Addiction treatment is just one of dozens of pet projects that "take-charge Kitty", who is 51 years old, supervises from an office down the corridor from her husband in the Massachusetts State House. She has expanded programmes for the homeless and also served, until President Reagan dropped her last year, on the National Holocaust Commission. Her husband has promised to reappoint

his Jewish wife to the post on the day of his inauguration. She also vowed recently to shake up the vast and bureaucratic Immigration and Naturalization Service once her husband takes over.

Mrs Dukakis's Jewish origins are seen as one of the factors in her emotional championship of underdogs, from Soviet immigrants to AIDS patients. In another publicized incident, she fell to her knees before a Thai general at a refugee camp when it appeared that she would not be permitted to see the little boy she had come to bring back to America. The mission succeeded.

A powerful personality in her own right, Mrs Dukakis has probably done more for her husband's fortunes over the past year than any of the other wives. In the early stages she campaigned on her own, meeting him only for the odd night at far-flung airports. In New York, she played the Jewish card to the hilt.

While other campaign couples struggle to mask marital strains, the obvious passion of the Dukakis partnership impresses even the hard-bitten reporters attached to their campaign. Parading on a cold St Patrick's Day in Chicago, Mr

Dukakis forgot he was wearing a microphone when his wife helped turn up his coat. "Tonight, if I'm asleep, wake me up," he whispered. "Don't let a moment go by." The words made the evening news.

For the pop psychiatrists of the 1988 campaign, the Dukakis couple is a case study in the attraction of opposites. Michael lives through Kitty all the emotions that he bottles up behind his button-down collar, or so the thinking goes. "She's a surrogate for his buried self," says a friend.

Few couples can offer such contrasts. No television writer has come up with a sharper formula for situation comedy. He is a steady, frugal, stay-at-home, stuffy, drab-dressing, non-smoking Greek. She is a luxury-loving, sociable, spontaneous, travel-loving, elegant, musical, compulsive smoker. His desk is as orderly as a putting green. Hers is a sea of chaos. Until lately he bought suits in a discount shop. She buys so many clothes that she hides them at her father's house to avoid arousing his anger. Gail Sheehy, author of an acclaimed series of psychological profiles of the candidates, says Mr Dukakis has been under heavy and

unbroken female influence all his life, first from his powerful mother Euterpe and then from Kitty.

Katherine Dickinson first went out with Michael Dukakis, then a lawyer and aspiring politician. In 1961 after she had returned to Boston with a young son. At the age of 20 she had first married a young serving airman. Friends say Mrs Dukakis was at first not bowled over, but she was deeply touched by Michael's affection for her son John.

They married, she pursued a career as a dance teacher and he as a politician. They produced two daughters, Kara and Andrea, who are now campaigning for their father along with John, who was adopted by Mr Dukakis at an early age.

Since 1974, when she took her desk in the governor's office, politics has been Mrs Dukakis's life, even during his four-year exile from the governor's seat after his 1978 election loss.

She has no intention of stepping back if they reach the White House. According to *Newsweek* magazine, she is already planning an office in the President's West Wing quarters because the First Lady's offices in the East Wing are too far away.

Kremlin tells officials to stop harassing churches

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

Admitting that millions of Christians had been sent to labour camps, killed and repressed during the Stalin era, a senior Soviet official has called for the full acceptance of believers and urged bureaucrats to stop putting obstacles in the way of freedom of worship.

Mr Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs, the government body overseeing church activity, told the weekly magazine *Ogonyok* that there were 70 million believers in the Soviet Union, and their constitutional rights had to be respected. He said their support was needed in restructuring society, but they had to be convinced that *perestroika* would guarantee freedom of conscience and stop them being looked on as second-class citizens.

He compared the ideals of the Bolsheviks in 1917 with the values of Christianity, and insisted that the revolution had not been aimed at the suppression of the church, but at its liberation.

"It is time to realize that to separate the church from the state does not mean separating it from society. Believers are our Soviet people, who were

shaped in the Soviet era," he said. "I am convinced that the fate of *perestroika* to a great extent depends on the believers' relationship to it."

His forthright statement marks a significant evolution in the official view of religion, which has been marked by the tight control exercised by the Council for Religious Affairs and its encouragement of atheism. Together with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's invocation of Christ — printed in *Pravda* and other newspapers yesterday — it reinforces official attempts to win the older generation, many of whom are Christians, to the cause of reform.

Significantly, the interview was given on the eve of President Reagan's visit here, during which he intends to make an important speech about religious freedom at a monastery recently returned to the Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow. The call for an end to bureaucratic persecution of Christians and other religious groups comes as the Russian Orthodox Church prepares to celebrate its millennium amid signs that the Soviet state will return dozens of churches used as warehouses. "We have tens of

millions of believers in our country, and politics begins where there are millions," Mr Kharchev said.

He admitted that many local officials had flatly ignored the laws guaranteeing freedom of worship, and said his council had received about 3,000 letters of complaint from believers in the past year. He cited examples of petty repression by officials who told Christians: "Take off that cross. It might be seen from the windows of a school. It's forbidden!" Or asserted that a church dome would spoil an architectural ensemble. Or insisted that a sign indicating a Baptist prayer house must be removed.

"Some officials do not miss a chance to create obstacles. I repeat again and again, we must stop approaching the church from a position of force."

Mr Kharchev noted approvingly, however, that about 300 religious communities had been officially registered since Mr Gorbachev came to power. And in discussing the Stalinist repression of the church he echoed Mr Gorbachev's admission last month that the Soviet state had made a tragic mistake in

its treatment of Christians. Mr Kharchev was at pains to insist that all this had not been the intention of the revolutionaries. He said Lenin had decreed that the church should be allowed to function normally, but under Stalin the state had departed from these rules.

And in a clear attempt to reconcile years of officially-promoted atheist education and party loyalty with the new spirit of reconciliation, he said millions of Christians had originally supported Soviet power, and the ideals of the revolutions — "justice, freedom, equality" — were near to the hearts of the believers as they were near to the ideals of Christianity.

Mr Kharchev noted that whereas in 1953 there were 15,000 functioning Russian Orthodox Churches, there were only 6,794 by 1986.

Asked by *Ogonyok* how the number had fallen in light of his statement that there had been "no mass exodus from religion", he admitted that Khrushchev had also waged a fierce campaign against religion — though he insisted the former Soviet leader had not intended anything evil towards the church.

Afghanistan toils with refugee issue

From Christopher Walker
Kabul



Afghan rebels gleefully sorting through supplies left behind by retreating Soviet troops.

A mammoth programme for the resettlement of some seven million Afghan refugees is slowly getting under way here, bedevilled both by the severe physical difficulties caused by nine years of civil war and also by complex political difficulties which are yet far from resolved.

According to the latest figures compiled by the main Western embassies, 3.5 million of the displaced persons are now living in Pakistan, a further 1.5 million in Iran and in addition to these, another 2 million Afghan citizens are living as refugees inside the country itself, many of them crisscrossing the capital.

In addition to the familiar problems of refugees the world over, those forced from their homes by the bitter fighting in Afghanistan will have to contend with an estimated total of 4.5 million butterfly-shaped Soviet anti-personnel mines which have been scattered through many of the areas where they used to live.

"The problem of mines is serious and has already caused hospitals to report an increase in the number of civilians losing limbs in explosions," a Western envoy said.

Studies by Western aid experts have shown that in many areas ravaged by warfare and by what has often amounted to a scorched earth policy, it may take up to 10 years before land and livestock are able to function as they did previously.

For this reason, the experts are hoping that the bulk of the refugees can be persuaded to come back in stages, with limited numbers of families returning first in order to prepare the land so that it is on the way to being able to sustain the others returning later.

Dr Mohammed Hasan Sharq, the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the Government's repatriation programme, told Western reporters that initial United Nations estimates had shown that nearly \$400 million (\$215 million) would be needed in the initial six-month period alone to transport the refugees home and provide them with food and shelter.

Dr Sharq, who at 62 is being widely tipped as the possible future Prime Minister in the government reshuffle planned later this month by President Najibullah, outlined details of a programme already launched by the pro-Soviet regime which he claimed would enable it to handle the return of 3,000 refugees a day through a system of government hostels which would be used as transit centres.

Because of the political difficulties with Pakistan, the majority of the refugees now returning are coming from Iran, where many have endured extremely harsh living conditions. About two to three plane-loads a week are being flown in from the regional city of Herat to the main 700-bed reception centre in Kabul.

The readiness of the international community to cope with what aid experts could quickly designate as chaos and human misery on a wide scale has been complicated by the fact that most Western governments refuse to recognize what they regard as the Kremlin puppet regime of Dr Najibullah, which many believe may collapse over the next 12 to 18 months.

WORLD ROUNDUP

US envoy renews Noriega talks

Washington — President Reagan has sent Mr Michael Kozak, his special envoy, back to Panama to continue talks aimed at ousting General Manuel Noriega, the military strongman, the White House announced yesterday (Mobsin Ali writes).

Mr Kozak, a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, returned to Washington after month-long talks in Panama on Friday night to brief President Reagan and top ministers at White House meetings over the weekend. In another reflection of the deep divisions within the Administration on Panama policy, Mr James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, told President Reagan at the weekend that he strongly opposed dropping drug charges against the dictator. Vice-President George Bush, too, opposes such a deal. The drug crisis has become a big election issue in the United States.

Lesotho exile returns

Johannesburg — A prominent exiled Lesotho politician, Mr Ntsu Mokhehle, has returned home for the first time in 14 years for peace talks with the government (Michael Hornsby writes). Mr Mokhehle, aged 69, flew to Maseru, Lesotho's capital, from South Africa last Friday for two hours of talks with Colonel Sekhobe Letsie, a member of the former British protectorate's ruling Military Council.

Radio Lesotho said that Colonel Letsie had assured Mr Mokhehle that the personal safety of all exiled members of his Basutoland Congress Party would be guaranteed if they came back to Lesotho. "In a true spirit of peace," Mr Mokhehle fled Lesotho in 1974 after his party was involved in an armed uprising against the Government. His return is likely to have been encouraged by Pretoria, and is seen as further evidence of the close working relationship between the military junta in Maseru and South Africa.

Colombia jet hijack

Panama City (Reuters) — A man armed with a grenade hijacked a Colombian airliner on a domestic flight yesterday and freed all 131 passengers and flight attendants before forcing the three-man crew to fly to Panama. The Boeing 727 of the airline Avianca later arrived here, but an airport spokeswoman said she had no information about the hijacker or his demands.

She said a Panamanian Air Force official was to conduct negotiations. The three crew still on board were the pilot, co-pilot and flight engineer. Officials said the plane was hijacked between the Colombian cities of Medellin and Bogota. It returned to Medellin where the passengers and flight attendants were freed, then it took off for Panama.

Danish film winner

Cannes (AFP) — The Golden Palm award for the best film at this year's Cannes Film Festival was won by *Pelle the Conqueror*, by the Danish director Bille August.

The American actor, Forest Whitaker, won the prize for best actor for his performance in *Bird*, directed by Clint Eastwood.

India's Maira Nair won the Golden Camera award for the best first film with *Salaam Bombay!*. "It's a great honour for the children of Bombay and for my country," she said as she received the £23,000 prize from the French actress, Danielle Delorme.

Lini sacks arch-rival

Sydney — A security clampdown was ordered last night in the Pacific nation of Vanuatu amid fears of a violent backlash over the sacking of a rebel minister (Christopher Morris writes). Vanuatu's Prime Minister, Father Walter Lini, after a week of indecision, decided to act by dismissing his political arch-rival Mr Barak Sope, the Immigration Minister, because of his involvement in last week's riots which left one person dead. But Father Lini rejected accusations made by Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister of Australia, that the disturbances were Libyan-inspired.

Hopes for political reform in Hungary

Liberals give Grosz a mixed welcome

From Richard Bassett, Budapest

The dramatic change of leadership in Hungary announced late on Sunday after a three-day party conference was greeted yesterday by most Hungarians with a mixture of indifference and hope.

While the official press made great play of congratulatory telegrams from Moscow to the new Secretary-General of the Communist Party, Mr Karoly Grosz, opposition intellectuals dwell on the inclusion for the first time of several "open-minded" liberals in the newly-elected Politburo. "It's a great relief that Pozsgay got into the Politburo," one dissident said. "As he is also a member of our Democratic Forum, an organization made up of many intellectuals outside the party, this means that we will not be swamped out in the near future."

Mr Imre Pozsgay, aged 55,

and the veteran economic reformer Mr Rezső Nyers replaced "old guard" supporters of the outgoing leader, Mr János Kádár, who is 76.

Mrs Thatcher yesterday sent her "warmest congratulations" to Mr Karoly Grosz, the new Hungarian leader (Michael Evans writes). Mr Grosz has made it clear that he admires Mrs Thatcher's economic success and plans to introduce his own reforms for curbing inflation. He discussed economic matters with Mrs Thatcher earlier this month when he came to London for a visit.

Feelings were mixed, however, among intellectuals about Mr Grosz and his attitude towards political reform. Many of them know that he stands very close to Moscow, as was confirmed by

the Kremlin's happy reaction yesterday. "He will certainly shake out the economy but the lid will be kept on any serious political reform," one Western diplomat said.

Others, however, were more optimistic. Several intellectuals thought that the way was now open for a move beyond just multiple candidate election and the apparatus of a single party.

They took heart from Mr János Berez's words late on Sunday night when he said: "Socialism within one party is a brand we and Gorbachev have come up with."

On the economic front, Hungarian and Western businessmen in Budapest for the annual Hungarian spring trade fair expressed delight at the news of Mr Kádár's departure. "It's a chance, a great chance for us to become modern and really efficient

and prosperous again," a Hungarian toy maker said.

An Austrian businessman, however, was less enthusiastic. "We must watch out that our competitors here do not become too skillful. Austria is already losing money to Hungary as it is."

Market forces, in particular the Thatcherite philosophy of economics, are close to Mr Grosz's heart. His determination to make the over-centralized, ailing economy of Hungary more efficient will doubtless see results of one sort or another very quickly.

Though Mr Grosz told journalists recently: "Of course we cannot restructure Hungary as quickly as Mrs Thatcher has reformed Britain," change will not be slow in coming.

© MOSCOW: Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's warm message of congratulation to Mr Karoly

Grosz reflects satisfaction here that a man in the same mould of an energetic reformer as Mr Gorbachev has been elected (Michael Binyon writes).

Mr Gorbachev, in a telegram published in all the newspapers yesterday, praised Mr Grosz's energy and activities as a principled communist, and suggested that the two men would work closely together in the renewal of their two countries. "I am convinced that our two brotherly parties will be active in the future in exchanging experience and in working together in our common affairs."

Mr Gorbachev has frequently insisted that the Soviet Union will not attempt to dictate policy to its East European allies. But he has made no secret of his encouragement of reform movements similar to those now underway here.

Le Pen's estranged wife takes marital battle to the hustings

National Front leader faces grudge campaign

From Philip Jacobson
Paris

The long-running grudge match between M Jean-Marie Le Pen and his estranged wife, Pierrette, has taken another turn with the news that this outspoken and uninhibited lady is getting involved in the coming general election.

Running under her maiden name, Lalanne, she will be the official substitute for the "extreme right" candidate in a constituency in the same

Bouches-du-Rhône region as the National Front leader.

From the day she took most of her clothes off to pose for *Penthouse* magazine, Pierrette has not hidden her desire to damage M Le Pen's political prospects.

As she freely concedes, her last-minute enlistment in the Arles constituency as the designated replacement for M Gabriel Demarquet — himself a disenchanted Le Pen man — is a means of "continuing my

struggle against him". To date, this has extended from the celebrated photo session in the extremely abbreviated uniform of a French maid to a torrent of personal abuse about M Le Pen's qualities as husband and lover.

She has also accused him of holding far more extreme views about Jews and coloured immigrants in France than has ever been apparent in his decidedly forceful campaigning on these issues.

For good measure, she alleges that he has also broken French laws governing the export of capital.

M Le Pen has wisely decided to treat his troublesome estranged wife as a non-person, so far refusing to rise to her bait.

Even so, he will hardly welcome her presence in an area near sea he is contesting (and confidently expects to win) in Marseilles.

Nor will her mother's de-

cision please the oldest of M Le Pen's statuesque blonde daughters, Marie-Caroline, who shares his political views and his feelings about Pierrette with roughly equal passion. She will be fighting a constituency in Paris where the mainstream conservative

candidate was to have been M Jacques Tourbon, Secretary-General of the neo-Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR) party led by M Jacques Chirac.

New Zealand Governor-General in row over pig clubbing

From Richard Long
Wellington



Sir Paul Reeves: Killed the pigs in an island ceremony.

The New Zealand Governor-General, the Most Reverend Sir Paul Reeves, aged 56, who is a former Archbishop of New Zealand and at the centre of a row after he clubbed two pigs to death in a traditional ceremony in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu, yesterday resigned his position as patron of the Auckland Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The Queen's representative announced his resignation in a one-line statement and declined to comment further. But the Auckland society said

it had written to Sir Paul suggesting this move after receiving hundreds of telephone calls and letters of complaint after the clubbing ceremony last month.

In Vanuatu so-called "holy pigs" are specially bred for the chiefly clubbing ceremony, which is recounted by author James Michener in his *Tales of the South Pacific*.

On the island of Pentecost, during a South Pacific tour, Sir Paul killed a tusked pig with four blows of a large ironwood club as chiefs held the squealing animal. Later in the day he repeated the ritual on another island.

Reports of the ceremony

brought a storm of protest in New Zealand, although the country kills and exports several million lambs a year, as well as calves and deer.

Foreign Ministry officials defended the action, saying a refusal to participate would have been a serious insult to the Vanuatuans. There the ceremony is reserved for the highest of local and visiting chiefs. Some have clubbed more than 30 of the animals to death in various ceremonies. Without participating Sir Paul could not have accepted the chiefly titles which were bestowed on him by the Vanuatuans.

In his *Tales of the South*

Pacific, Michener writes of the holy pigs, with their curved tusks which eventually grow back through the jawbone and sometimes complete a second circle, making the animal highly prized.

Recounting a clubbing ceremony, Michener wrote: "Swiftly the old chief raised his massive ironwood club and smashed it down on the pig's snout. He then thundered 20 blows upon the pig's skull. With great passion he crushed every bone in the pig's head. Then, with delicate precision, he gave two ceremonial blows that ended the sacrifice."

Mr Bob Kerridge, director of the Auckland Society for

the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said Sir Paul's actions had embarrassed the society, which was completing a pamphlet in four Pacific island languages, explaining acceptable and unacceptable treatment of animals. Island village traditions were often unacceptable in New Zealand.

Mr Arthur Blampied, the general secretary of the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said his society would consider its response at a meeting next month. The decision was difficult as it involved the Royal Charter which the society did not wish lightly to discard, he said.

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Singapore warns of harsh penalties for foreign 'meddlers'

Singapore has issued a stern warning to foreigners not to meddle in its politics, on pain of expulsion or indefinite detention without trial.

Mr Goh Chok Tong, the first deputy Prime Minister, told a press conference yesterday that foreigners were welcome in the island republic, providing they did not make use of its citizens to advance political ideas.

"It may seem very right of you to open up Singaporean society and make it more democratic, to have two or three political parties in Parliament, to have more freedom of the press by your definition. But we are Singaporeans, we are not going to be an image of you... leave us alone as far as domestic politics are concerned."

Mr Goh's remarks followed questions about the recent expulsion of Mr Mason Hendrickson, a first secretary at the American Embassy, who is alleged to have encouraged a prominent local lawyer to oppose the Government in general elections.

Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong, the Minister for Trade and Industry, said that if Mr Hendrickson had not had diplomatic immunity he would have been arrested under the Internal Security Act, which provides for indefinite detention without trial.

He said: "If any diplomat does it again, he is going to be expelled... anybody who did what Hendrickson did would be in trouble." This applied to foreign journalists, he added for the benefit of those present.

The ministers made it clear that Mr Francis Seow, the lawyer in question, would remain in detention without recourse to the courts as long as was deemed necessary.

Mr Goh said that the security laws had been introduced to deal with

From Gavin Bell, Singapore

subversives who could not be expected to leave a trail of evidence. "Francis Seow's activities fall within that category, so he will not be tried in an open court."

When pressed further, he said: "It is not a question of having insufficient evidence. It is a question of being satisfied that what he has done justifies his detention under the ISA."

General Lee, the son of the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, added: "In subversion cases, the law is you may be detained without trial... Francis Seow will be held as long as the director of the Internal Security Department is satisfied that he needs to be."

Mr Goh said Mr Seow's



General Lee: Threatened expulsions and detentions.

detention had not been prompted by concern about his standing as an independent in elections expected this year. "Politically we can destroy him any time. We have never regarded him as serious opposition."

As the Government was defending its crackdown on dissidents, and those deemed to be interfering in its affairs, it came under fire from two disparate quarters yesterday.

Mr Devan Nair, the immediate past President, denounced the Prime Minister

as "the incarnation of self-righteous intolerance", and called on him to resign.

Referring to pleas from Mr Seow for asylum in the US and Britain, he said they were a "damning indictment of the climate of fear and insecurity Mr Lee has managed to instil in Singaporeans who seek political change."

Mr Nair, a founder member of the ruling People's Action Party, paid tribute to the economic progress achieved by Mr Lee's administration over three decades, but said it was marred by an abysmal political style.

"Mr Lee's continued presence is tantamount to the presence of an albatross around the necks of a younger generation of leaders. I would think the kindest thing he can do now, after having served Singapore so well, is to step down."

Mr Nair's remarks were made in telephone interviews from neighbouring Malaysia, where he has gone, perhaps wisely, to visit relatives.

The Government said yesterday a writ was being sent to him, demanding an apology for defaming the Prime Minister with similar comments last weekend. Mr Goh said the former President had done nothing "up till now" to be detained under the security laws.

Meanwhile, Mr Geoffrey Robertson, QC, applying for habeas corpus for three political prisoners, accused the Minister for Home Affairs of punishing them for making public their disagreement with the Government.

He said the minister's action was unreasonable, irrational and unfair. "It is clear that powers were exerted to protect the minister and the police from political embarrassment."

The case for the defence, on both sides, continues.

Arab pupils get back to classes in Jerusalem



Palestinian children buying refreshments during a break at a girls' preparatory school in east Jerusalem yesterday at the end of their enforced holiday.

Israelis see school return as peace sign

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

A five-month compulsory school holiday for 200,000 young Arab children in the occupied territories ended yesterday when they were allowed to go quietly back to their classrooms by the Israeli authorities.

The schools were shut from the first weeks of the Palestinian unrest in December because so many disturbances began as children gathered for classes.

For many weeks Palestinian activists have been calling for the schools to be reopened, but this was not permitted until the military government felt the unrest was under control and subsiding.

Both sides have been able to claim the reopening of the junior schools and kindergartens as a success. The Palestinians because an average of 90 per cent of the children obeyed instructions from the underground leadership of the unrest to go back, the Israelis because a quieter atmosphere is apparent in the territories. If this

Jerusalem — Israel has gained so many prisoners since the start of the unrest in the occupied territories last December that it is having to carry out a big reorganization of its jails (see Murray writes). The 1,770 "administrative detainees" from the West Bank are to be put in one prison at Ketziot, near the Egyptian border. These detainees are held without trial for up to six months, although this period can be renewed indefinitely.

Israel is also to close small detention centres and concentrate prisoners in three larger centres at Faria, north of Nablus, Dahariya, south of Hebron, and Atlit, south of Haifa. Official figures show there are 4,800 prisoners, although civil rights groups claim 1,000 more. To meet criticism that prisoners are sometimes "lost", a computerized tracing system is being introduced.

continues it is likely that intermediate schools will be allowed to open next week and high schools the week after.

There is still no news, however, that the universities in the territories, which are seen by the authorities as hotbeds of dissent, will be allowed to open again. University students have lost all but four weeks of the academic year and will have to add an extra year to their studies. Many will not be able to afford the wait and so will lose their chance of obtaining a qualification.

Schools in East Jerusalem, which come under the direct administration of the Israeli Government, were reopened on Sunday with 10,000 of the 16,000 pupils reporting back. The authorities reserve the right to close the schools immediately if there is a resurgence of the violent demonstrations which have so far resulted in the deaths of around 190 Palestinians, plus an Israeli soldier and a teenage girl.

At the weekend, two Palestinians were killed by a petrol bomb thrown at their car, but police are not sure whether it was thrown in error by Arabs who thought the car was Israeli. Meanwhile, the case against two of four arrested senior editors from the

left-wing Hebrew newspaper *Derech Hanitzot* was opened in the Jerusalem District Court. The two, Mrs Ronni Ben Efrat and Mrs Michal Schwartz, have been accused of membership of an illegal organization — the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine — and of contact with a foreign agent.

The state claims that Mrs Ben Efrat and her estranged husband and newspaper editor, Yacov, who is also under arrest, made contact in London at the end of 1983 with two DFLP agents. The women, both mothers of two children, were refused bail. The case was adjourned until June 12.

Another legal case, over the order to deport Mr Mubarak Awad, the Palestinian American who founded an organization for non-violent resistance to Israel's occupation, started last because an official failed to do the necessary paperwork. This was completed in a rush and Mr Awad was brought to the court, but the delay made it impossible for a quick decision on the case.

Traditionalists' rift with Vatican

Lefebvre will bow to papal discipline

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, the maverick leader of the breakaway traditionalists of the Roman Catholic Church, this week travels to Rome for talks in the Vatican that are expected to declare a ceasefire, if not a lasting peace, in the battle between the Pope and the breakaway community.

The talks between Archbishop Lefebvre, aged 82, and Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the Vatican's chief theologian, will map out an agreement to prevent a major schism.

The French archbishop, who has set up his own religious community in Ecône, Switzerland, was threatening to ordain his own bishops next month. Although he is suspended *in divinis*, he can technically carry out ceremony; indeed he has ordained many priests.

The creation of bishops,

however, would perpetuate the movement and create an heir. The Pope was determined to head off the stubborn archbishop and intense negotiations have taken place at the Vatican.

The agreement, according to leaks from both sides, would mean the archbishop's acceptance of papal discipline (he has questioned papal infallibility) and the basic documents and principles of the Second Vatican Council.

In return the Vatican would "legalize" the order, declare its tolerance of traditionalist interpretation of Church teachings and go half way on the ordination of a bishop.

Archbishop Lefebvre said, somewhat optimistically, at the weekend: "Within the protocol of agreement I have been allowed under certain circumstances, to consecrate bishops."

I do not believe that we can go back on this subject. It seems that the Pope will appoint a bishop from a list of names submitted by the archbishop.

The problem for Vatican strategists has been how to defuse the lingering opposition to the Second Vatican Council reform without renouncing any of the fundamental principles. In many ways a compromise was made easier under the conservative Pope John Paul.

Although in his talks with Cardinal Ratzinger, Archbishop Lefebvre has shown himself to be both respectful and to some degree elastic, his followers are often passionate opponents of the council.

It is by no means clear that they will accept the terms of the archbishop's final deal — expected to be signed and sealed within the week — with

the Vatican. Nor is the compromise on the ordination of bishops straightforward; the Vatican will want guarantees that the successor to Archbishop Lefebvre will also accept the authority of the Pope.

Even so, there is a strong basis for a settlement. The Pope, who is regarded by so many in the United States and West European churches as arch-conservative, does not need a noisy, growing body of ultra-conservatives on the other flank.

There is also a built-in deadline for an agreement: June 29, the feast of Peter and Paul and the date of the proposed ordination. But the Vatican, wanting to demonstrate that it is not negotiating under pressure, would like to settle before the end of May, and certainly before the Pope travels to Austria in mid-June.

President's macho challenge

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has challenged the leader of an extremist Sinhala group — which is believed to be responsible for killing the secretary of the ruling UNP party last week — to a duel.

Speaking at a public rally at Homagama, about 20 miles from here, President Jayewardene said Mr Rohana Wijeweera, leader of the JVP (Peoples' Liberation Front) could choose the date and the weapons. The duel could take place on the seafloor green a mile from the centre of Colombo.

Mr Wijeweera could choose

"a bomb, a knife, a sword, a gun or even a T 56 (tank), though I don't know how to use them," the President said. This was better than killing innocent people.

Speaking after the assassination of Mr Nandimal Fernando, the President offered to send Mr Wijeweera his horoscope because he believed "even if a thousand Wijeweeras come they cannot kill anyone until his time for death has come."

Last August he escaped unhurt when a grenade was thrown at him in Parliament. The JVP, which is responsible

for a spate of killings over the past 10 months, maintains too much power has been conceded to the minority Tamils under an accord signed by Sri Lanka with India last July.

As the President was speaking, about 20 gunmen killed a candidate of the UNP who was contesting provincial council elections to be held on June 2, and five others in his home at the time.

The five-year-old proscription of the JVP was lifted on May 10 after the organization apparently offered to surrender weapons. But the offer turned out to be a hoax.

Japanese Red Army man in court

Yasuhiro Shibata, a Japanese Red Army hijacker who was arrested in Tokyo last month being taken in handcuffs, right, for his first court appearance at Kobe, western Japan.

Shibata, aged 34, told the court he had returned from Pyongyang to continue his fight but denied working for North Korea (Reuters reports from Tokyo).

A newspaper reported at the weekend that Shibata and colleagues were to spearhead a six-week terrorist campaign in June to force the cancellation of the Seoul Olympics.

He was arrested on suspicion of breaking passport laws and his court appearance came after police filed for an extension of his detention. A 10-day extension was granted.

Shibata, then a 16-year-old school dropout, was one of nine Red Army members who hijacked a Japanese airliner to North Korea with 138 people on board in 1970. The whereabouts of the others, except for one who died in 1980 in Pyongyang, are not clear.



Italian Radicals seek Euro-revolution

By Boris Johnson

Even for the vigilant party bosses of Europe it is an electoral threat from a wholly unexpected quarter: the party that introduced a self-confessed mobster, not to speak of a certain former porno film star called "La Cicciolina", to serve in parliament.

The Italian Radical Party, firmly on the humanist fringe of that country's rich political culture, but well represented in the lower house and the Senate, has made history by declaring itself the first transnational European party.

So intensely are the Radicals concentrating on their goal of pan-European influence that they will not be fighting any more elections in Italy in the near future, and

their headquarters have been moved from Rome to Brussels. Other offices have been opened in France, Spain and West Germany.

A certain amount of calculated confusion surrounds their intentions for their vast new constituencies, but Radical leaders make it clear that their plans are something to do with 1992.

They first hit Britain three weeks ago, when 30 of their number came in search of converts at a demonstration in London against Clause 28 of the Local Government Bill, which is thought to discriminate against homosexuals.

Of a total of 389 non-Italian members, there is strong

representation from Spain, Portugal and Belgium, with more than 70 members each. France contributes 18, Greece 14, West Germany six — but so far only one member of the British public has been wooed to their cause.

"At the moment Britain is a problem for us," admits Signor Massimo Teodori, a professor of Political Science at Perugia University and vice-president of the group.

"The politics there are traditionally insular. But the European dimension in economic affairs, which will be complete by 1992, means that the old political structures of the nation-state will no longer be able to manage."

The grand moment of the

Radical campaign for a United States of Europe is expected on July 14 next year. On the 20th anniversary of the Estates General in Paris, which led to the French Revolution, the Radicals hope to be in the vanguard of the European revolution, after an Estates General of all Europe's national parliaments is held in Strasbourg, at their invitation, to call for a united Europe.

"The Italian, Spanish and Belgian parliaments have already agreed to attend, and we are expecting about 6,000 MPs from all over Europe."

In Britain, the Radicals are actively seeking an alliance with the Liberals.

Bonn in driving seat as EEC heads for 1992 reforms

After a period of self-doubt, even of anti-EEC sentiment, West Germany is seizing the leadership of Europe. "Bonn is the driving force in the EEC at the moment," one EEC diplomat said at the weekend. "It is setting the agenda, pushing plans for a European central bank, for example."

This is happening, officials say, just as Mrs Thatcher is "proving once more that she is half-hearted about Europe at best."

The battle is heating up for jobs in the European Commission when its four-year mandate expires in December. The Commission reshuffle will be decided at next month's EEC summit in Hanover, at the end of the current West German presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers.

At the end of last week Herr Martin Bangemann, the West German Economics Minister and chairman of the Free Democrats, chairman of the ring by threw his hat in the ring by announcing that he would resign and stand for the presidency of the European Commission in Brussels, competing with M Jacques Delors,

the incumbent. Herr Bangemann, like many German politicians, has strong European links and is a former Euro-MP. Asked on television whether he was leaving Bonn because he was disenchanted with the Christian Democrat-Free Democrat coalition of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Herr Bangemann said: "I am not so much leaving

dorf, should prove a more congenial coalition partner."

Herr Bangemann's decision to aim for the Commission's presidency, or at least a senior post, symbolizes Bonn's ascendancy in the EEC. It is paralleled in the Nato bureaucracy by the appointment of Dr Manfred Wörner, Herr Kohl's former Defence Minister, as Secretary-General in succession to Lord Carrington.

In Britain, by contrast, politicians still do not dip easily into European matters and back into the world of British politics (Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr Christopher Tugendhat are perhaps exceptions which prove the rule).

Britain's senior Commissioner is Lord Cockfield, who holds the crucial 1992 portfolio, with responsibility for the single European market. Lord Cockfield, initially seen as a lightweight, has become a leading European figure passionately committed to the cause of European integration.

But he is 72, has clashed once too often with Mrs Thatcher over EEC harmonization, and is unlikely to

stay. "There may be good reasons for letting Cockfield go, such as his age," one EEC official said. "But Mrs Thatcher has got herself into the position where sacking Cock-

Brussels View

By Richard Owen

field will be seen as an anti-European move."

Few senior British politicians have shown much interest in taking over from Lord Cockfield, the front-runner is Mr Leon Brittan, who resigned from the Cabinet two years ago over the Westland affair. The likely outcome is that Britain, which has two seats on the 17-man Commission, will lose the 1992 portfolio during the Hanover horse-trading.

This leaves the German programme for Europe rolling forward, with Herr Kohl hoping that the abolition of trade barriers in 1992 will not only boost the EEC but also the German economy. At a meeting

tomorrow of EEC foreign ministers in Brussels, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister and current president of the Council of Ministers, will outline an intensive programme of internal market talks during the next month to push the 1992 process onwards.

He will set the seal on Bonn's latest success in the EEC chair: a treaty between the EEC and Comecon, paving the way for diplomatic recognition of the EEC by Moscow. And he will set the agenda for the Hanover summit, including a radical West German plan for completing economic and monetary union by setting up a European central bank.

Given the recent Cabinet row in Britain over sterling and the European Monetary System, this could well precipitate a crisis in Britain's relationship with Europe, with Hanover becoming another "Mrs Thatcher versus the rest" EEC event.

The last confrontation, at the Brussels EEC summit in February, ended in compromise over EEC

spending cuts and budget reform. But that involved reforming past EEC practices and bringing the budget up to date to meet the needs of an EEC of 12 in the 1980s.

The concept of a European bank goes to the heart of what Europe will be like in the 1990s. Senior Cabinet ministers such as Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the

Lord Cockfield has become a leading European figure

Exchequer, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, favour sterling entering the EMS, bringing Britain into line with its partners and enhancing the role of the City as Europe's financial centre, poised to take advantage of 1992.

Yet Mrs Thatcher remains adamantly opposed, apparently because she fears a further erosion of national sovereignty. Hanover could force some of the ambiguities in Britain's relationship with Europe into the open.

Multiple murderer dies in prison

Rome — Roberto Succo, believed to be one of Western Europe's worst multiple murderers, killed himself yesterday in an Italian prison by stuffing his head in a plastic bag filled with gas (Roger Boyes writes).

Succo, from Venice, was committed to a mental asylum after killing his parents in 1981. While confined there he was allowed to study for a natural science degree at Reggio Emilia University, escaped on the way to class and fled to France where, according to magistrates, he left a trail of death.

He was accused of killing six people in France, including a police inspector, a doctor, a ballerina and another woman.

Plea rejected

Tanjungpinang, Indonesia (Reuters) — A judge has rejected a plea by 10 foreigners — six Americans, three Australians, and a Briton — accused of illegal entry into Indonesian waters to be allowed to leave the country despite a threat by two of the Americans to go on a hunger strike. The 10 claim they were on a scuba-diving holiday.

Rebel attacks

Lisbon (Reuters) — Angola's pro-Western UNITA rebels, in a statement released here, said they have killed 58 government and Cuban soldiers in two attacks.

Flood toll

Peking (Reuters) — The death toll in huge floods which followed freak rainstorms in south-east China has reached 78 and is expected to rise.

Bull victim

Madrid (Reuters) — Señor Antonio González, a bull-fighter who was gored and carried by the neck on a bull's horns, is on a life-support machine at a Madrid hospital.

35 drowned

Dhaka — Thirty-five fishermen were drowned and 44 others are missing after their boats were swept away by waves during a storm in the Bay of Bengal, Coast Guards said.

Mafia ruling

Washington (Reuters) — The US Supreme Court has let stand the convictions of the leaders and key members of the Colombo Mafia family in New York for engaging in a wide-ranging criminal enterprise.

Fascist dies

Rome (Reuters) — Dino Grandi, the last surviving leader of Fascist Italy and the man who provoked the overthrow of Mussolini, has died aged 92.

May 23 1988

PARLIAMENT

Government easily survives peers' poll tax revolt

The Government easily survived an attempt to put the issue of the community charge, or poll tax, back to the Commons for further consideration.

An amendment to that effect, moved by Lord Chelwood, the former Conservative MP Sir Tufnell, was rejected by 317 votes to 134 - Government majority, 183.

There was some hissing in the chamber, as well as cheering, when the result was announced.

Moving the amendment at committee stage of the Local Government Finance Bill, Lord Chelwood (C) said that 25 million people would be outside the rebate level, including the richest and the poorest and needy. All would be paying the same fixed rate.

He described his amendment as "a polite request to the Commons to have a second look".

It had been Conservative policy in 1974 to abolish rates and to replace them with a fairer system. At the time, Mrs Thatcher had been shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, and from then until 1986, when the last edition of the "pale green paper" had been published, it had been party policy that rates should be directly related to ability to pay.

He had been accustomed to that, like many of his colleagues, and it had come as a considerable surprise to find that there had been an about-turn and that he had decided on the idea of poll tax which a majority of his colleagues had already planned as hard as it could and had said would never work.

There had been talk of loyalty, but he was loyal to a policy because he thought it very sensible and he could hardly find himself turning a somersault and agreeing to exactly the opposite.

"That is why I find myself on the spot."

The Conservatives had promised in the last election manifesto: "We will legislate in the first session of the new Parliament to abolish the unfair domestic rating system and replace rates with a fairer community charge."

He said: "I do not think that the present proposals are fair in any way at all. They are a lot

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less fair. They have little support and are extremely unpopular in the country."

He had had nearly 300 letters, nine to one against poll tax, and although he knew that have-nots wrote more often than haves, all the one in ten letters that he had received in support of poll tax had been from those who would find their rates slashed.

Nearly all representative organizations had said that they were opposed to the tax.

They had read that the tax had been tried out in other countries. Thanks to *The Times* they knew that these places were a hell of a job to find on the map.

They were in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. The tax did not work awfully well there and had been phased out in some United States cities, although it had not been used on a considerable scale anywhere.

He had been told that 13,000 staff were needed to run the rates system and that 30,000 would be needed for the new.

The Association of Municipal

My amendment is a polite request to the House of Commons to have a second look

Authorities, efficient, whatever its politics, had put the cost of running it annually at about £100 million above Government estimates, and the setting-up charge, including computers and buildings, at £256 million a year for three years.

Ability to pay was the key. The people who were just above rebate level would have the greatest difficulty in paying. They would find it an intolerable burden. There was no doubt that many would be in considerable financial difficulty.

He had been told on good authority that they could not have wrecking amendments in the Lords, but this was not that - just a difference of opinion.

"We are in a mess. The flagship, which this Bill has been dubbed, is sailing too close to the wind. If she does not come off the wind a bit, or come out smartly, she will cross sheets

and we shall really be in a mess - a much worse one."

Lord Eldonborough (C) supported the amendment. He said that it made no sense to poll people out of tax at national level, quite rightly, and then to push people already crushed in the welfare net into taxation. They did not do it for defence, so why do it for education and local affairs?

Comparing the cost with that of television or car was ridiculous, since neither of those were compulsory, as poll tax would be.

Most of them knew that the Bill would never have passed a free vote in the Commons. That was why the amendments had attracted such support.

"Most MPs have to sell the tax on the doorstep and they know quite well that this is an unsaleable product. Your lords are lucky. We do not have to get out on the doorstep or to seek re-election."

"This poll tax will not go away. It will come back in a couple of years and will hit the Government just at the worst possible time, in the run-up to the next general election."

Viscount Whitelaw (C) said that he was speaking in the Lords for the first time for himself and not for any Government or Opposition.

He had gone through all the discussions about the tax and as a result was convinced that the decision to abolish the existing rating system must be right. The proposals in the Bill with provisions for rebate, which had been introduced in the Commons, were basically right.

"I hope that you will give the Bill the scrutiny for which this House, as a revising chamber, is so well equipped. If further improvements can be produced, so much the better, but the amendments are seeking to change the whole basis of the Bill."

He must accept that Lord Chelwood believed that they were not wrecking amendments, but every man must be judged by the company he kept.

Labour peers did not want the Bill, and sought to stop it by any means. If that was not a wrecking position, he did not know what was. They had allied themselves understandingly with Lord Chelwood and had produced proposals which were not well thought out. They did not seek to be that.



Mrs Thatcher greeting Señor Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary General, at Downing Street yesterday. The Prime Minister and the Secretary General discussed international issues, including the Iran-Iraq war (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

They said that the Government should produce regulations. But delegated legislation derived from an incongruent Bill was not wise.

The other consideration was the reason he had decided to speak.

His experience as Leader of the House had led him to become a passionate believer in the House as a revising chamber.

That role would work only when the revising chamber worked in sensible co-operation with the elected chamber. When he was leader, he had gone to other members of the Government and told them that they would have to compromise.

But if the Lords decided that it was going to stand against the Government and the elected chamber - and this amendment would be confronting them - he would bitterly regret it.

"We shall do so much to destroy any success of this as a revising chamber, which you have done so much over the years to promote."

Lord McIntosh of Haringey, for the Opposition, said that the proposition of poll tax was not just unpopular now, but was also bound to do enormous damage to the Conservative Party in years to come and some Labour peers, aware of that,

said: "Let them get on with it" (some Labour cheers).

"I take a different view, that the interests of the people of this country, who will be voting and paying for local government, in the short and long term, is more important."

It was not their task to produce a revision of community charge. He was not saying that there was a simple solution, but even the rates were better than what was proposed. They

If Labour returns to power, it could come to regret the precedent it would be setting

were desperately inadequate as a fair basis for local government revenue.

The Government, with all its resources, had an opportunity, if the amendment was carried, to produce further amendments to put before the Commons.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby (Lab) said that the only way for the House of Lords to revise the Bill, whether mildly or substantially, was through the amendment.

How else were peers to in-

dicate their anxieties about the ability to pay, which were reflected throughout the country? Was there not some way in which more information could come from the Commons that would enable peers to come to firmer conclusions?

The community charge was supposed to be a uniform tax, but there were likely to be so many claims for exemptions and rebates that that concept would be altered so as to become unrecognizable.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone (C), the former Lord Chancellor, said that he did not want to talk about the niceties of the constitution, but about its essence and the relationship of the two Houses.

Never had the House of Lords stood higher in public esteem than it did at the moment. That was because it had never seen itself as a general court of appeal from the Commons, but had been content to accept the result of the constitutional battle which had ended in 1911, following rejection of the Budget in 1909.

He had studied *Erskine May*, the standard work on the workings of the two Houses, and had found there never had been a right for the House of Lords to amend a charge to tax.

The Bill before the House was

not a money Bill because it had not been so certified by the Speaker. *Erskine May* made clear that the charge under discussion came within the prohibition on amending a charge to tax.

"If the parties opposite are seeking, as they claim to be, to go back on their own traditions as to the relationship between the two Houses in a matter of this kind, they will be betraying their whole tradition and they will be betraying parliamentary democracy."

Should the Labour Party return to power at some time in the future, could it come to regret the precedent it would be setting in a major Bill if the proposed amendment were passed?

There had been considerable abuse during the debate about the community charge, but not a single word or argument in favour of the particular amendment, nor could such an argument be presented.

The amendment talked about the ability to pay and sought to put those words into an Act of Parliament. Acts had to be construed by the courts and it would prove impossible for the courts to construe that principle.

Rebates and exemptions were the way to deal with ability to pay, not a vague, impossible principle.

Official aid budget rising

Net official British aid in 1987, at £1,151 million, was 0.28 per cent of gross national product, the Government had today said. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Mr Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, said in a written Commons reply.

Increases in the aid programme announced in the public expenditure White Paper meant that aid was now planned to grow in real terms. The aid budget for this financial year was £70 million higher than for last year, an increase of 5.7 per cent, considerably in excess of expected inflation.

The planned aid budgets for 1988-89 and for 1990-91 provided for increases of £140 million and £185 million, respectively, over the budget for last year.

Ex-minister criticized

Lord Crickhowell, Chairman of the National Rivers Authority, who as Mr Nicholas Edwards had been a secretary of state for Wales, was just another "mump", who had been appointed to preside over the lowering of standards and quality of water in Wales, Mr Ronald Davies (Carmarthenshire, Lab) said.

He said that incidents of pollution were now running at a record level of 2,500 a year, with only one in twenty-eight resulting in prosecution.

Mr Ian Grist, Under Secretary of State for Wales, accused Mr Davies of lowering standards with that "disgraceful contribution". He would have thought that the Opposition would have welcomed in that position a person with Lord Crickhowell's knowledge and love of Wales.

Thatcher plan rejected

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, rejected a suggestion that Prime Minister's question time - 15 minutes on Tuesdays and Thursdays - should be extended.

Mr David Widdick (Wales North, Lab) said that, as up to 200 MPs now tabled questions to the Prime Minister for each session, compared with 20 or 25 some years ago, the time should be extended.

Mr Wakeham said the general view was that the present system was better than any alternative suggested.

Parliament screening

A cancer-screening programme for all women working in the Houses of Parliament should be operating by the autumn, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said at question time.

He said that the take-up in the pilot scheme in the House of Lords had been high.

Waiting lists

There had been treatment for an additional 1,000 outpatients and 2,900 inpatients and day cases as a result of the extra £1 million of waiting-list funding in 1987-88 for Wales, Mr Ian Grist, Under Secretary of State for Wales, announced.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Defence; Prime Minister; Employment Bill; Lords amendments.

Lords (2.30): Local Government Finance Bill, committee, second day.

Opposition accused of having no idea of how to overcome problem

Tory housing policy 'has destroyed lives of the young'

The Government's policy on housing had destroyed the lives of millions of people, particularly young people sheltering in cardboard boxes and looking for somewhere to live, Mr Clive Soley, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said during the opening speech of an Opposition day debate on housing.

"It is high time this House gave them somewhere to live", he said.

Mr Soley moved a motion condemning the Government's housing policies and calling for a reformed system of housing finance.

He said that one of the hallmarks of a civilized and affluent society was that it should find it possible to provide high standard housing for a large majority if not all its citizens.

There was no reason why the United Kingdom should not be able to achieve that aim. But the housing crisis had grown at an alarming rate.

House-price inflation was now running at 20 per cent. In 1985, there had been 16,490 mortgage defaults, for building societies added 570 for local authorities.

By 1987, local authorities had been able to reduce that to 490, thanks to good management, but in mortgages generally for

the private sector the figure had gone up to 22,630.

The repair bill in the public sector was frightening. It was estimated to be £19 billion. In the private sector, the bill necessary to maintain standards was in the order of £27.5 billion.

They were now in a situation where many Conservative-controlled local authorities were increasing rents in order to keep the rates down.

The Government policy was fundamentally flawed. Cutting the subsidies to rent and increasing subsidy to buy meant that the rented sector would dry up. Unless the Government did something about housing finance, all they would do would be to increase harassment.

A significant minority of landlords would behave extremely badly. Because there was no adequate supply, there would be no real choice for people.

Any reform had got to be fairer both within and between the rented and purchase sector and it had to be introduced in a way that did not throw mortgage payers and rent payers into economic distress.

The number of people on council waiting lists had doubled since 1979 to 100,000. No one knew how many people were homeless. All that was known was that there had been



Mr Soley: UK should be able to provide homes

a dramatic increase in the number of people sleeping on the streets.

The Government had tried to blame local authorities, which were said to have many empty properties. But the figures showed that the average figure for "voids" for local authorities was 2.5 per cent for housing associations 3.1 per cent; for the private sector 4.2 per cent; the worst was the Government at 6.9 per cent.

The underlying cause was the decline in the number of council house starts from 140,000 in 1977. That fell to 92,000 in 1979 and was now down to 33,000 in 1985. There had been a sharp drop in the supply of housing.

The Government, whose economic philosophy was based on supply and demand, did not seem to understand that deliberately and wantonly cutting supply was bound to lead to crisis in demand. Ministers did not seem to understand their own lectures.

In his own constituency he had come across four people sharing one room paying £70 a week each. The Housing Bill would push up market rents to such a level that landlords would go for rich tenants, such as company lets, or pack in as many people as possible.

Landlords would use the Business Expansion Scheme to get a tax return after five years, then they would use the provisions of the Housing Bill to get vacant possession and sell the property. They would have the tax handout and vacant possession.

It was understandable that Conservative MPs representing South-east constituencies should be worried about their areas looking like urban parks. With-out proper planning, the housing problem would not be put right.

The Conservatives believed that the answer was more and more home ownership. But the Government must put more money into the hands of local authorities and housing associations so that people had a choice between buying and renting.

The Government had not only destroyed the improving housing situation it had inherited, it had destroyed the lives of millions of people, particularly young people living in cardboard boxes and looking for somewhere to live. "It is high time this House gave them somewhere to live."

Mr William Wakeham, Minister for Housing and Planning, moved an amendment commending the Government on its home-ownership policies and its provisions in the Housing Bill to make more homes available to rent.

He said that they had heard nothing from the Opposition about how to get rid of the housing problem.

It was clear that most people wished to buy their own homes. Two and half million more people owned their homes compared with the position under the Labour Government.

In the first quarter of this year, more than half the houses built had been bought by first-time buyers. Last year there had

been a record number of first-time buyers. It was wrong to maintain that first-time buyers were being excluded from the market.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said that, while most people wanted to buy their homes, there were thousands, if not millions, who would never be able to. The Government was putting local authorities in a position where they could not provide homes for these people.

Mr Wakeham said that the Labour Party's answer to homelessness was to carry on with the existing system of housing provision.

It was a scandal that there were 10,000 families in bed-and-breakfast accommodation, yet there were four and a half million council properties in a system so inflexible or inefficient that homes for the homeless could not be provided. It was time to look at the way enormous resources were being used. Some local authority management was chaotic and not in a position to help the most vulnerable people.

There was simply no point in plugging more money into council housing when the local authority could not spend it effectively. The Government was therefore trying to target local authorities that would co-operate.

Far closer involvement was

needed in the management, and preferably the ownership, of rented property by tenants in the subsidized rented sector. Otherwise, the money being made available might well go straight down the drain again.

That was why the Government wanted to see the expansion of housing associations. He could announce that housing association schemes supported by local authority loans would still be eligible for Exchequer grants under the Housing Bill.

Mr Keith Bradley (Manchester, Withington, Lab) said that people were rushing to buy their council houses because they feared that under the Housing Bill they would lose the right to their home.

Property developers were going round the Manchester council estates with glossy brochures promising people free central heating, double glazing, to consolidate their rent arrears and give them mortgage tax relief if they would take out an endowment insurance scheme to buy their council homes.

Mr Kenneth Hargreaves (Hyndburn, C) said that many home owners could not afford to keep their houses in good condition and needed assistance. Home improvement grants should be targeted to selected home owners so as to help those in need and improve the housing stock.

Far closer involvement was

MPs to get a shop

A shop for the use of MPs and staff working at the Palace of Westminster is to be included in the new parliamentary building in Bridge Street, across the road from Big Ben, when the building is ready in 1990, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said at question time.

He was responding to a demand for better facilities for MPs from Mrs Ann Cwyd (Cynon Valley, Lab). She said that, although she was not suggesting that there should be more unisex bathrooms, there should be a unisex hairdresser.

The accommodation at Westminster, she said, was disgraceful, and if the Palace were subject to health and safety regulations most of it would be shut down.

There should be basic facilities so that MPs did not have to be "limping to the back of the queue late at night for a bottle of milk or a bit of bread" (laughter and cries of "Ah" and "Shame").

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said Mr Ken Livingstone (Brent East, Lab) would appreciate getting an office.

Mr Wakeham replied that the suggestion of Mr Livingstone was for the Labour whip.

'She should practise what she preaches'

Thatcher sermon attacked

Mrs Thatcher should learn to practise what she preached before she got an invitation to address the Synod of the Church of England, Mr George Foulkes (Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley, Lab) said during questions.

Before the Church Commissioners had their arms twisted to issue an invitation in the same way as the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, they should bear in mind the offence she had caused to many members of the Church of Scotland.

The Prime Minister had said that the love of money was the root of all evil. Such evil could be seen in the City of London. Before such an invitation was issued, the Church Commissioners should make sure that the Prime Minister practised what she preached.

Mr Michael Allison, answering for the Church Commissioners, said that Mr Foulkes did less than justice to his fellow countrymen. Several hundred members of the Church of Scotland had heard the Prime Minister. To imagine that their arms were so weak that they could be twisted by the Prime Minister to force them to submit to an address they did not want was a mockery.

The Prime Minister had made an important contribution to the important, topical debate on the interaction of personal faith and civic responsibility and they had been well received.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said that until he heard the Prime Minister's sermon in Scotland he had assumed that the Budget was written by St Nigel and not St Paul.

If the Prime Minister was so fond of quoting St Paul, why had he not used part of St Paul's First Letter to Timothy when he said that leaders should be sober, temperate and not in the grip of filthy lucre.

Mr Allison said that he was glad that Mr Banks had taken to quoting Scripture. The Prime Minister had never been given to unsobriety and certainly was not so at the general assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Community charge cost 'too high'

One county council in Wales has estimated that replacing rates with poll tax will involve 3,500,000 payments annually instead of the present 500,000. Mr Paul Flynn, an Opposition spokesman on Welsh affairs, said at question time.

Mr Wyn Roberts, Minister of State for Wales, had said that, although there might be a cost involved in setting up the

community charge, the running cost would be no more expensive than that of rates.

Mr Flynn said that there would be an enormous burden of work. In one county council, it had been estimated that the number of accounts would rise from 140,000 for rates to 375,000 for poll tax. The number of instalment payers would increase fivefold.

It is time Welsh Office ministers did something to protect people from this Tory tax, this unfair and unnecessary tax.

Mr Roberts: He has gone around with "guesstimates" to scare people about a fair tax, which will be easily understood and will help to clear up wasteful expenditure.

MPs complain about 'Commons staff racism'

Two black MPs yesterday spoke of alleged racism among staff in the House of Commons (Richard Ford writes).

They complained about the attitude of some of the attendants at Westminster towards black people since the last general election, when four black and Asian MPs won seats.

Miss Diane Abbott, the first black woman MP, said that

people who had come to see her at the Commons had made complaints about the attitude of some of the attendants.

She said: "The House of Commons is going to have to get used to having black MPs. Black people who have come to see me at the House of Commons have complained to me about the attitude of some of the attendants towards them."

Miss Abbott, who had been

Miss Abbott, Labour MP for Hackney and Stoke Newington, said that she had not been subjected to any such problems herself, but her Labour colleague, Mr Bernie Grant, said he had been forced from the public gallery even though the attendant knew that he was an MP.

Mr Grant, MP for Tottenham, said that the Speaker and Sergeant at Arms had failed to

answer his complaints satisfactorily. "There is no way I am going to be treated like this by some racist messenger. If I don't get an apology, I won't just pick up the Mace. I'll throw the flipping thing into the Thames."

The left-wing MP said that he was considering withdrawing from the daily business of the Commons to concentrate on constituency and black affairs.



Mr Nicholas Brown: "This is an insult to women"

so that he paid £5,067 in tax and she paid £4,863, a joint tax bill of £9,930.

"Tory-style independent taxation will give women little more than the privilege of having their own tax form..." Nigel Lawson is out to 'con' women. They should be wary of his dubious advances," said Mr Brown.

A Treasury spokesman did not dispute the facts yesterday, but argued that the purpose of the proposals was to end the tax disadvantages of marriage. They would be implemented by 1990, whereas a system of fully transferable allowances could not have been introduced before the mid-1990s.

There should be basic facilities so that MPs did not have to be "limping to the back of the queue late at night for a bottle of milk or a bit of bread" (laughter and cries of "Ah" and "Shame").

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said Mr Ken Livingstone (Brent East, Lab) would appreciate getting an office.

Mr Wakeham replied that the suggestion of Mr Livingstone was for the Labour whip.

FASHION by Liz Smith

Brief encounters

Benetton may be diversifying, but they have lost none of their flair with colour in the new range of stylish underwear

When the flag-waving, world-embracing fashion family of Benetton decided to expand their range to encompass lingerie, a typically easy-going approach to underpinnings might have been expected. At Benetton, a bodystocking is more than just a neutral second skin. It provides a striking silhouette, graphically contoured in black-and-white dog's-tooth checks, far too glamorous to play an undercover role, and good enough to make a swimsuit or skinny top.

Sturdy grey-and-white striped cotton jersey, hardly the flimsy stuff that customarily gets used to make little nothings, is sliced up to make a tiny boned and cuffed bustier and briefs good-looking enough to be worn to the beach. Stars and stripes, improbable as an understated motif, decorate a half-cup bra and pants set.

That is how the Italian fashion firm, who succeeded in uniting the world in their passion for colourful knitwear, translate the meaning of underwear. In Benetton parlance, where clothes are "colours" (and I am afraid that in their international idiom the word is spelt "colors"), underwear becomes Under Colors, the first layer of any fashionable ensemble. The strict definition of knicker or bra is ignored, since most of the strongly-styled and colourful basics in the range are unlikely to be worn covered up by other clothes anyway.

The Under Colors that have arrived this summer in the chain of 4,500 Benetton shops spanning the globe do come, of course, in discreet pastel pink trimmed with satin bows or a thick, crunchy, all-over white lace. They include traditionally engineered underpinnings, bras, briefs, bodysuits and camisoles. But for the most part, when tossed among a drawerful of T-shirts and turtle necks, Benetton Under Colors will be picked out for what they really are — yet another well-designed garment to take its place in the informal wardrobe with which Benetton has succeeded in clothing the world.

The introduction of underwear is just part of the latest expansion drive launched by the Benetton group. A fragrance, Colors de Benetton, a light scent made in France and packaged in a five-sided bottle to represent the five continents, was introduced last year and has just arrived in stores across Britain. Colors de Benetton cosmetics will soon follow. Benetton soft furnishings will be ready by the end of the year. The first of the new Benetton Super Stores, housing the complete ranges and fitted out more lavishly than the familiar small units, has opened in Bologna.

The colonization of the world by Benetton shops carries on non-stop. It was once calculated that a new franchise opened somewhere in the world every day. It was Cuba yesterday; Central and South America are currently the targets for expansion. Eastern Europe has surrendered, but Russia and China are proving tougher frontiers to breach. A target of 7,000 Benetton stores is expected to be reached by 1992.

Luciano Benetton, a handsome, bespectacled Italian who wears Brooks Brothers shirts and Polo Ralph Lauren ties with his Benetton blue jeans and tailored tweed jackets, is head of the family. Gilberto Benetton is the financial controller, Carlo the technical expert, and Giuliana the head of design. Although none of the second generation of Benettions is being pressured to join, all 15 are poised to carry the family firm through to the 21st century.

Luciano, who is also president of the group, was in London briefly to supervise plans for expanding one of their main franchises — the Oxford Circus branch — and oversee details of the 265 British Benetton shops. He likes to explain the true democratic spirit behind the happy international empire he has created and the secret of its success.

"It is always the customer who chooses what sells," he says.

"Production always follows public demand. Styles are kept simple, the choice of colour is wide, and the price is democratic. This is not a philosophy, but practical business sense. When we include the season's official fashion colours dictated by designers, they are invariably the things that are slowest to sell."

The saga of the three Benetton brothers and one sister, who set up the business on the proceeds of the sale of Luciano's accordion and Carlo's bicycle, may be as familiar today as their green and white logo (a strange hieroglyphic based on a knitting stitch), but it is worth tracking back to the initial simple policy that turned what was a thriving family concern into a multinational giant with a £700 million turnover.

Using a computerized operation, Benetton dyes ready-assembled garments — rather than the basic yarn — to whatever colours emerge as the most popular in any one season, and ensures that there is an efficient response to customer demands. This summer Benetton supplies its contented customers with navy, cream and a dark khaki green. Deep Benetton blue is a constant favourite, joined this summer by fuchsia, orange, lime.

What started modestly in 1955, when Luciano was 20 and marketing the sweaters made by their sister Giuliana on a home knitting machine, became established as Benetton in 1965 with the acquisition of the first factory in Treviso. Today Benetton operates from a frescoed 17th-century villa in the Veneto.

The energetic and enduring idealism projected by Benetton's style comes about less by planned strategy than by the evolution in the last five years of a singularly successful marketing campaign, helped by the fashion photographer Toscani's colourful images of multi-racial groups of Benetton-clad customers flying the flag for fashion freedom.



Luciano Benetton

Left: Stars and stripes bra, with underwired half-cups, £15.90; matching black and white cotton high-waisted knickers, £9.90

Above: Corsetlet in white thick stretchy lace with underwired bra and adjustable straps, £28.90

Far left: Bodysuit, with high round neck, in bold black and white dog's-tooth checks with sheer fishnet trim, £25.90

Under Colors of Benetton are available at Benetton, 255-259 Regent Street, W1, and major branches. The Under Colors photographed here available from mid-July

Photographed on location at the Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, W1

Make-up by Jo Karsberg Hair by Jaffa for Sanriz, 31 Brook Street, W1; 131 Brompton Road, SW3

Photographs by EAMONN J MCCABE



Glitter and gold

The legendary jewels of the Duchess of Windsor star in a remarkable exhibition of Cartier objets d'art opening tomorrow at Goldsmiths' Hall. When the Windsor collection was auctioned a year ago, Cartier acquired the key pieces for their museum. With such well-known Windsor jewels as the flamingo brooch and the bracelet of inscribed jewelled crosses, now in the collection of Wafik Said, they are central to this historic exhibition which moves on to Tokyo this autumn and will visit Paris next year.

The Cartier exhibition is at Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, London EC2 from May 25 to June 10, 10.30am to 5pm, weekdays only.



Agnesbarn's most celebrated customer, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, took her daughter-in-law Diana to a special shopping evening last week at her favourite Regent Street store and was welcomed by Gerald Abrahams, chairman of Agnesbarn (centre left), and Roger Putnam of Jaguar who parked a brand new red XJ-S V12 convertible in the shop for the event.

Joan Bernstein of Browns, who keeps fashion-obsessed Londoners supplied with the hottest labels in her shops in South Molton Street and Sloane Street, this week opens a corner offering designer

clothes at bargain prices. Last season's Rykiel, Kamali, By-blos or Beene, old hat to the avant-garde, may be the last word in fashion to most. Prices from £10. Labels for Less, Browns, South Molton Street.

Lingua Franka

Baroness Jan Stael von Holstein, known in fashionable London circles as Franka, celebrated 21 years as one of London's most exclusive couturiers by transforming a gallery at the Royal Academy into a couture salon last week. She need hardly have paid models to parade her sophisticated style in the gala charity fashion show, since at least 90 of the women guests wore their own Franka evening dresses. Led by her most visible customer, the Duchess of Gloucester (pleated white chiffon), they included Ava Gardner (black and gold tulle), Princess Katherine of Yugoslavia and Valerie Kleeaman, who had revived a pretty, vintage Franka number for the event.

The vested interests



Waistcoated Tom Gilbey

"The King hath yesterday declared his resolution of setting a fashion for clothes, which he will never alter. It will be a Vest, I know not well how, but is to teach the nobility thrift, and will do good." In the centuries since Samuel Pepys's diary entry for October 8, 1666, heralded the demise of the doublet and hose in favour of the three-piece suit, the waistcoat (Americans still call it a vest) has not always maintained its status of formality in a man's wardrobe. From being a badge of social standing and respectability, and something in which to

Lavish waistcoats are bursting out from the sober three-piece suit

loop a fob watch, the waistcoat has been the uniform of cowboy, saloon keeper and dockworker.

The waistcoat is now enjoying a revival, both in the dandyified style coming into fashion for women next season, and with men who have always viewed a fancy waistcoat as a permissible expression of the peacock male.

By opening a Waistcoat Gallery at the back of his tailoring establishment off Savile Row, Tom Gilbey is taking an opportunity to display as art the fine stuffs (dressedy brocade, woven striped silk, moiré and the summery slubby-textured linen and ticking) of which the waistcoat can be made, as well as the satisfyingly graphic cut of the vest which lends itself to being framed like a flat plan. Lined up in an inviting array of material, or mounted against a backdrop cloth, waistcoats can

be seen for the flash of colourful texture they add to an outfit.

Tommy Nutter's establishment around the corner in Savile Row is kept busy during these weeks as orders for his double-breasted silk moiré waistcoat (as worn by Lord Montagu, Sir Roy Strong, Tim Rice and other dapper dressers) are rushed through in time for Ascot, Henley and summer weddings.

Nutter even suggests one of his snappy vests, double-breasted and reversible from club stripes to paisley, as an alternative to the Henley blazer when worn with white flannels, breeches and a generously-scaled linen shirt.

Nutter also reduces the smoking jacket to waistcoat proportions, applying lavish quilted silk and fringing to a brocade vest.

Tommy Nutter's Versatile Vests are at 19 Savile Row, W1. Prices £120-£200. Tom Gilbey's Waistcoat Gallery opens on May 31 at 2 New Burlington Place, Savile Row, W1. Prices £40-£150.

TAPESTRY SPECIAL OFFER



These two naive tapestries in wonderfully bright and cheerful colours, originally commissioned for The Observer, have been designed by Susanna Lisle, an artist best known for her interior and still life paintings. The two cats are in black and white, but are set against a riot of rich colouring. The sitting cat is surrounded by light yellow, crimson, pink and aquamarine, with a pale pink backdrop. The cat lying down is among deeper oranges, pinks, greens and violet, with a navy backdrop.

They are quick and easy to make, being worked in half-cross stitch on 10 holes to the inch canvas. They measure 12"x12" and the kits come complete with printed canvas, needle, instructions and all the required 100% wool from the Appleton tapestry range. All for \$19.95 each. Use FREEPOST — No stamp needed.

Ehrman Kits Limited, 21-23 Vantage Gate, London, W8 4AA. Please allow 28 days for delivery. Money back if kits returned unused within 14 days.

To: EHRMAN, FREEPOST, LONDON, W8 4BR.

Please send me _____ tapestry kits at \$19.95 each.

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SPECTRUM

In the Arc of Armageddon

● Next month, deep within a secret building called Arc, America will test its Star Wars defences in a '2,000-second' nuclear war

● In the second of three articles, our Defence Correspondent Michael Evans, reports on the weakest link in the SDI chain — the giant computers that Congress has warned could fail in a crisis

● And he examines a new breed of Phase 1 missiles designed to 'hit and kill' enemy warheads before they re-enter the atmosphere



Two thousand seconds. That is how long it would take the Soviet Union's missiles to cross the heavens and hit their targets in the United States. Of all the countless statistics of the nuclear age, this is the one that most crucially shapes the thoughts of America's Star Wars scientists.

They believe they can develop the technologies — the hardware — to counter any attack. But a question mark hangs over the software, because it is computers which, in the scientists' jargon, will have to "glue" Star Wars together. In a "2,000-second war", their artificial intelligence would have to direct and control the weapon systems to counter thousands of hostile missiles.

Next month, inside a top-security building called the Arc (Advanced Research Centre), deep in the Tennessee Valley at the once hick town of Huntsville, Alabama, the experts will seek the answer. At the front of their minds will be last month's judgement by the US Congressional Office of Technology Assessment that the software would break down.

The experiment is code-named EV-88 and will be run from a large, air-conditioned control room swathed in floor-to-ceiling curtains, which draw back at a nod from Mike Gately, the project engineer, to reveal row upon row of terminals in long darkened "corridors".

For EV-88, 16 big main-frame computers, including six of the latest Vax 8800 models, will be linked together to plot, analyse and counter a 2,000-second nuclear ballistic missile attack involving, for the first experiment, 8,000 warheads and decoys. The scenario will include many of the putative Star Wars defence systems, including 36 surveillance

Their nickname is "smart rocks": self-guiding, rapid acceleration "bullets" that would be launched from space platforms into the path of inter-continental ballistic missiles during their boost phase, before the warheads separate from their rockets.

The official name of the programme is Leap (Lightweight Exoatmospheric Projectile), and its success is crucial to Phase 1 of Star Wars. Researchers at the US Air Force Laboratory at the Kirtland Air Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico, estimate a need for 250 to 300 Leap platforms. Major Joseph Zlotowski, in charge of the \$51 million project, says: "The Phase 1 goal is a projectile weighing five kilograms with an acceleration of 1,000 metres a second. For Phase 2, the goal is a two-kilogram projectile."

Boeing, the prime contractor, is scheduled to build two projectiles ready for flight-testing by August 1989. "If we're successful," Zlotowski says, "we'll have demonstrated 87 different technologies. We're now in the process of building a

The acronym Eris stands for Exoatmospheric re-entry vehicle Interceptor sub-system. It is a ground-launched non-nuclear missile, now being developed by Lockheed to attack Soviet missiles above the Earth's atmosphere, more than 60 miles up. About twice the size of a man, it is known as a hit-to-kill weapon because it destroys an incoming missile head on.

FLYING SENSORS In an experiment known as the Airborne Optical Adjunct, a Boeing 767 has been converted to carry a long wave infrared sensor to track missile re-entry vehicles. The plan is to have sensor tracking systems, monitoring the trajectory of missiles on three levels: airborne, on the ground, and on satellites.

The built-in compartment containing the sensor

The control consoles and communication equipment

At the first sign of a Soviet attack, sensors already in orbit or launched on rockets would probe thousands of miles into space to pick up incoming ICBMs. The sensors, which are now being designed by engineers at Huntsville, would "talk" to each other in algorithms (computer language) and then feed the information to command centres.

Gerry Cavender, project engineer for a ground-based surveillance and tracking system, says: "We know this concept works because of an experiment that was carried out in the 1970s. It's the quality of the sensors that we're now addressing."

Dr Dick Fisher, director of Setra (Surveillance, Acquisition, Tracking, Kill Assessment) at Huntsville, explains that the need is for many more of the detector elements that measure the infra-red energy of incoming

Huntsville's history is littered with ballistic missile defence projects which have been developed and then abandoned.

The first system was called Nike-Zeus, which had a nuclear warhead. In 1962, an unarmed missile, launched from the US test site at Kwajalein, a banana-shaped Pacific atoll, flew sufficiently close to a ballistic missile fired from 4,300 nautical miles away in California for it to have been

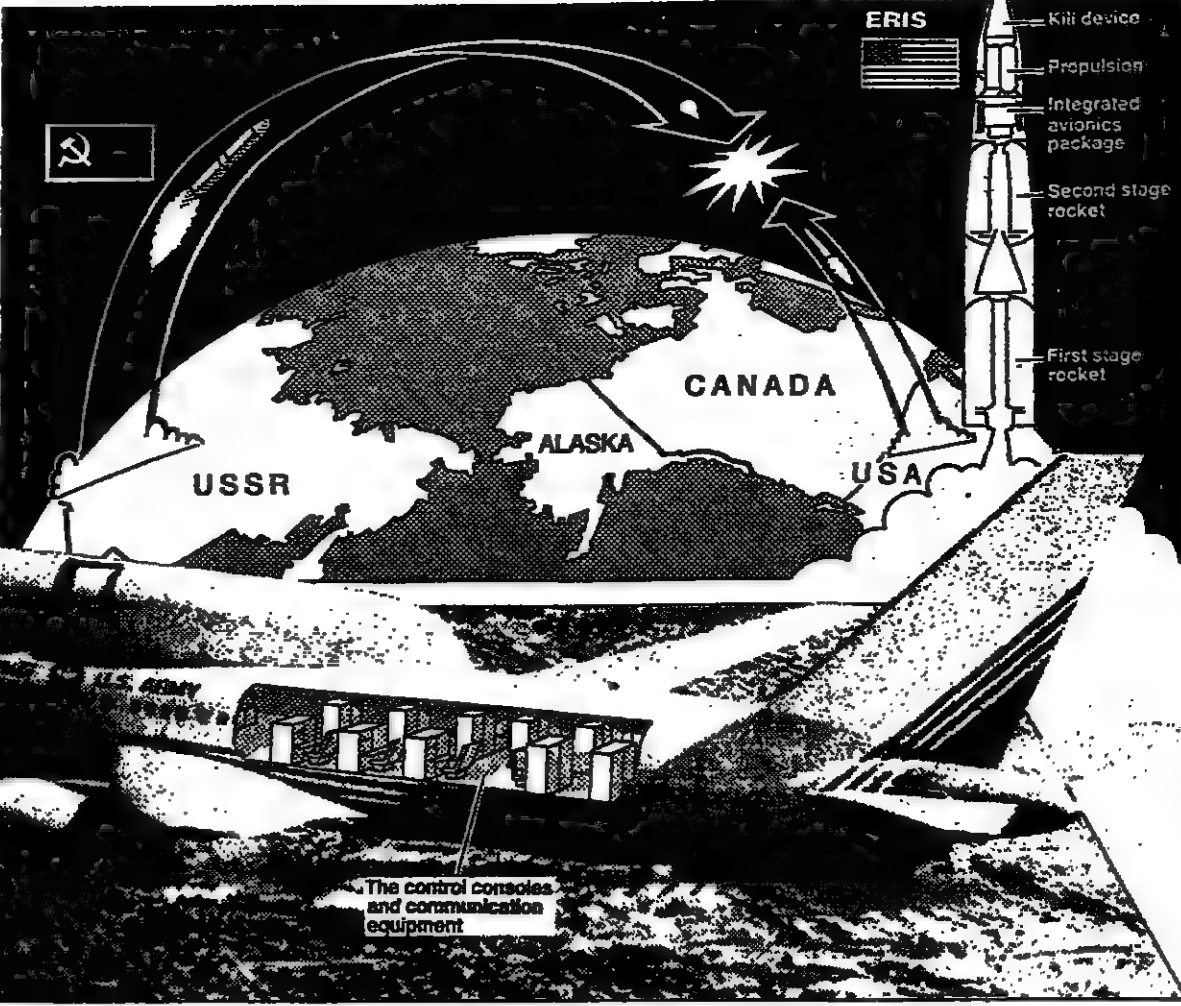
theoretically destroyed by the warhead's nuclear radiation. Other projects followed. They included the Spartan and Sprint interceptor missiles that became part of the Safeguard ballistic missile defence system, which was fully deployed around one US Minuteman missile site in North Dakota but remained operational for less than five months for when the ABM Treaty was signed in 1972, the Americans felt it was not

cost-effective to have a single defence system. By contrast, the Soviet Union's equivalent system, built around Moscow and known as Galosh, still exists, albeit in a more sophisticated form.

Safeguard may be dead, but sons of Safeguard are on the way. They are called Eris and Hedi. Eris is for destroying missiles outside the earth's atmosphere at altitudes above 100 kilometres; Hedi is for attacks below 100 kilometres and

has the potential to destroy low-trajectory submarine-launched and tactical missiles. Both are ground-based, non-nuclear, hit-to-kill systems and flight tests for their precursors produced "direct hits".

Eris missiles weigh less than a ton, have a range of between 625 and 1,250 miles, and could cost \$1-2 million each. With its first test flight scheduled for early 1990, Eris is closer to potential



WATCHERS THAT WOULD WAIT IN SPACE

rocket boosters. In February this year, a \$250 million mission aboard a Delta 181 rocket tested a number of both passive and active sensors, including lasers. Next year an experiment will be carried out on board a launch-backed Boeing 767.

The project, which ties in the US Strategic Defence Command, Boeing Aerospace, Hughes Aircraft and Honeywell Computers, is called Airborne Optical Adjunct. The aircraft has been fitted with an 11,000lb, 56ft-long extra compartment on the roof. Inside will be a long-wave infra-red sensor, sliding on rails, that will peer up into the atmosphere to track missiles. The Hughes-developed sensor, 16ft long and 8ft high, has 38,000 "detectors" and the telescope inside has three large mirrors made of

fused quartz. There is no plan to build a fleet of 767s as flying platforms. If, however, the introduction of remotely piloted drones carrying sensors.

Colonel Gary Stewart, AOA project manager, admits there have been problems. "I'm optimistic," he says, "but I'm paid to be. It also doesn't come cheap." (The AOA experiment will cost \$500 million).

The multitude of sensors in space would be complemented by ground-based radar. These would need to sense inbound warheads at an altitude three times higher than current radars. One called GBR-X is to be built at Kwajalein in the South Pacific by 1992. Because it is not mobile it will comply with the ABM Treaty, but the army is also looking at a proposal to mount a radar system on the US rail network.

6. It is a lot less daunting than at first thought. There are already some fantastic software systems around, like the Navy's Aegis. It can be done?

Mike Gately
Arc project engineer

deployment than anything else in SDI and is included in the Phase 1 technologies. Jim Kateschis, Eris project manager, says: "I've been in missiles for a long time... I worked on Nike-Zeus. I've never failed yet." Hedi — it "flies faster than anything that flies in the atmosphere" — has lateral "thrusters" that fire off with the force of an F-15 jet fighter to help change the missile's direction whenever necessary to keep on target. And it needs to be quick: with a Soviet re-entry vehicle entering the atmosphere at 10,000ft a second and the terminal phase lasting just 60 seconds, the 7th Hedi missile must reach speeds faster than the incoming warheads. The \$310 million Hedi programme began more than two years ago, and according to deputy project manager Larry Fulton: "We've accomplished enough to believe that we have a good chance of performing our mission."

But at Huntsville, Eris and Hedi are being looked at in a wider context. One unit is studying the questions: what will an Eris battalion look like? How many people will be needed, and will new maintenance technologies be required? How many engineering plants will be required?

"Unless we can work out all these sort of details now, we're doomed to failure when we reach the production stage," says Colonel Tom Chapman, deputy director of SDI systems analysis.

TOMORROW

The New Light Brigade — exotic laser weapons for Phase 2 of SDI

To whom it may concern

"She was 12 years younger than me": Lord Hailsham. "Both her and Charles went out to join the royal skiing party": a Sloany royalty hanger-on. "The sympathies of my colleagues and I go out again to the relatives": an assistant chief constable. These recent specimens from *The Times* illustrate the decline and eventual death of the remaining inflections in English. Old English was a

NEW WORDS FOR OLD

Philip Howard

fully inflected language: words changed their endings to show what job they were up to in a sentence. For 15 centuries English has been losing its inflections, and signalling the meaning of a sentence purely by the order of the words in it.

Almost all the vestigial inflections survive in our proverbs, and we are increasingly bad at them. There are opposing tendencies at work. One is the populist wish to sound an ordinary Joe on chat shows, which makes us commit solecisms such as "She was 12 years younger than me", or to use the interrogative who in "Who did you hear that from?" where the correct whom is felt to sound snooty. The other is the panicky dash into the pronoun that sounds more genteel, because we know that there is an inflection there somewhere and cannot be bothered to work out the carpentry of the sentence. "The Prime Minister, whom we all know is a stickler for such niceties."

The latter is a famous old trap. The intervention of "we all know" makes us mistake whom as the object of the cause and put it in the accusative, instead of the subject who, because the lady is a stickler, and accordingly the subject of the clause. Even Shakespeare did it. *Tempest* III, 3, 92, "And in these fits I leave them, while I visit/Young Ferdinand, — whom they suppose is drown'd." It should be who because Ferdie is the subject of "is drown'd". Maybe William was sidetracked by that "they sup-



CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1572

ACROSS

- Soviet Foreign Minister (12)
- Frenzied (7)
- Leather thong (5)
- Heroic poem (4)
- Assign (8)
- Greedy type (3)
- Cocktail fruit (5)
- Light slap (3)
- Morque (8)
- Quint good (4)
- Normal (5)
- Highly strung (7)
- Clothes disarrangement (12)

DOWN

- Compass direction (7)
- Ballet (4)
- Unusually (13)
- Recent arrival (8)
- Play (5)
- Tidal bore (5)
- Amew (6)
- Seallop shell dish (8)
- Company sub unit (7)
- Beat soundly (6)
- Heng (5)
- Rakes (5)
- Stern, resolute (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1571

ACROSS: 1 Graz 3 Ascend 8 Epaminondas 10 Ski 11 Solid 12 Pastic 14 Nay 15 Arm 16 Chignon 17 Relic 19 Gum 22 Enkikillen 23 Enze 24 Plus

DOWN: 1 Gratify 2 Arie 4 Sidesman 5 Esael 6 Duloosom 7 Mews 9 Officials 13 Succinct 14 Narrate 15 Anguish 18 Leas 20 Mace 21 Sit

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TIMES DIARY

BARBARA AMIEL

I took five hours to purchase all I needed for my next couple of weeks travelling east of the Urals. The taxi carrier bags and I came to a dead halt in Grosvenor Place last Saturday when 50,000 Christians felt the need to bear witness in Hyde Park. We were stopped by an intense young man carrying a sign which read: "Behold I stand at the door and knock." My sentiments exactly.

I have pointed out before my astonishment at holding these marches on the one day of the week when most city dwellers are scurrying about trying to fill their cars and buy new plugs. What propels these Christians to follow the example of Norman Willis rather than Pachomius of Thebaid? The legitimate urge to proselytize cannot be successfully achieved by isolating Belgravia and encircling it with tumbourines, wee Christians in baby strollers and elderly ones in wheelchairs. This popular urge to march and sing is atavistic, I suppose, although the enjoyment of showing power by rending traffic and bystanders strangers in their own land speaks to something else. I kept trying to push across the road and was wrong-footed by a team from King's Church, Southampton, singing "Lord Made Flesh to Us as Man."

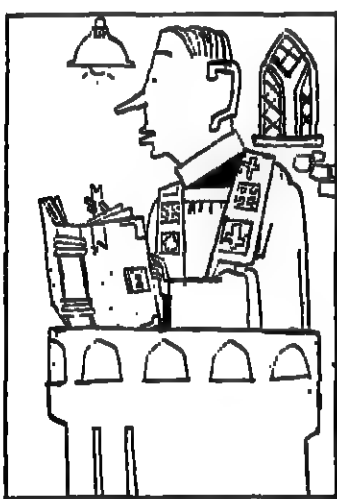
It is a privilege to live in central London, but the bane of it is that our few square miles of home attract marches like locusts to fig trees. I abhor people who evince no interest in marching by the front gardens of their own homes but will dress up like nuclear warheads to parade by mine.

When I got home I listened to accounts of Christianity according to the Prime Minister. Mrs Thatcher sounded in fine form; I particularly liked her comment that "it is not the creation of wealth that is wrong but the love of money for its own sake." This upset a lot of the clergy, including the Archbishop of Wales, who went on about the distribution of wealth and how everyone should have a fair share of the cake.

This may be the right attitude for a very modern Christian but I can't help feeling that it wasn't quite what the Bible had in mind. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God," it says, as well as admonishing the apostles to sell their goods and share the proceeds among each other according to need.

My understanding of this was that it was necessary to get rid of television sets and bank accounts in Switzerland in order to be sufficiently unencumbered to pass through the eye of a needle and address oneself to the central and single purpose of religion — the salvation of one's soul. This is quite different from the progressive view that distinctions between rich and poor should be abolished as much as possible. I don't expect the Archbishop to become a stylist, concentrating only on his own salvation, but I wish he would stop identifying free-enterprise liberal democracy as a block to social justice and advocating a mixture of Marxism, syndicalism and socialism as the only route to it.

BARRY FANTONI



The first lesson is taken from the Tory manifesto, paragraph eight

It is always a pleasure to discover that beautiful women are warm. Mrs Gerald Ronson, who at a distance has always sent me into a frenzy of washing my hands and hopeless attempts to tidy myself up, turned out to be a woman of great charm presiding over a dozing family. I was in a particularly sentimental mood when I discovered that her daughters and I were linked by the North London Collegiate School. Glancing through an NLCS magazine I discovered an edition wildly denouncing the national curriculum. I remember doing the same sort of thing during my stint as school magazine editor later on in Canada, so if it's not too presumptuous I look forward to welcoming Ruth Marshall, currently of NLCS's Upper Fifth, to this side of the barricades.

Spirited discussion about glasnost and perestroika last Saturday night at the Gay Hussar, which remains the best venue for such things ex-Budapest. I don't envy Kadar's successor. After all, how can perestroika be anything but a disaster in which the economies of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union will now combine the faults of both capitalism and socialism? Capitalism, with its sink-or-swim approach to enterprise, has the virtue of at least giving its swimmers a fighting chance to make it to shore. Indeed, there is a point in swimming because eventually you will get there if you swim well enough. But so long as the philosophical thrust of Marxism-Leninism remains, the keenest reformer cannot import the free-market ethos that makes the sink-or-swim risk of capitalism work. Grosz's swimmers will merely crawl to an ever-receding horizon with the weight of the state weighing them down.

We ended our meal with the latest joke from Moscow. Jew goes into an employment bureau but is told there are no jobs for him. "Why?" he asks. "I'm glad you asked that," says the man behind the desk. "Under glasnost we are open and above board about our hiring practices. We don't hire Jews." "What about the return to the principles of Lenin?" asks the amazed applicant. "What about strict socialist legality, the Soviet Constitution, and the rights of minorities and small nations?" "And especially," says the bureaucrat, "we don't hire stupid Jews."

Lord Jenkins, Chancellor of Oxford University, was his amendment last week in the Lords "to ensure that academic staff have freedom within the law". On Monday last week *The Times* reported that Oxford University would not be filling the Regius Chair of Modern History when the present incumbent, Sir Michael Howard, retires in September "because they could not afford to fill it".

This week it is reported that Oxford will not be filling the Regius Chair of Ancient Greek for the same alleged reason. On the radio, Lord Jenkins expressed his fears that by the year 2000 there would not be one "world-class" university left in Britain.

These reports are inter-related. If the rules of Oxford University go on in such a way, do they deserve to be a world-class university by the year 2000? In the efforts of Oxford's Chancellor to point to the note in the Government's Education Reform Bill, they seem to be oblivious to the beam in their own management.

Oxford, Cambridge, and many other British universities are certainly among the finest in the world. They must, of course, have academic freedom. It would make nonsense of the concept of the university if they did not. It would also make

nonsense of this concept if there was an absence of freedom of speech. I wish that more vice-chancellors had had more moral courage recently to ensure freedom of speech for all.

Abolition of academic tenure is not a threat to academic freedom. Indeed, it could be argued that lifelong tenure conflicts with effective management and therefore, indirectly, with academic freedom itself.

The real threat to academic freedom is not the abolition of tenure. The real threat is money, or rather poor management of the large sums being spent in universities. Professor Kedourie, of the London School of Economics, in his letter to *The Times* last Friday, put his finger on half the problem when he pointed to the extraordinary new powers that the Universities Funding Council will have under the Bill.

The UFC, and the Secretary of State behind it, will allocate public money to the universities according to their own discretion

Stuart Sexton blames mismanagement for those empty chairs

Universities challenged

and could easily determine which faculties to fund. That could threaten academic freedom.

It would have been far better if the Government had applied the same logic as it is now applying to schools over student funding. What it should have done, and could still do, is to allow universities to charge full-cost fees for undergraduate education and to channel public money to the universities through the students, enabling students to pay the fees. This would substitute the sometimes arbitrary decisions of a funding committee for a market of students seeking the best courses and the best professors, with the universities responding by providing such education.

Let the universities have a full budget funded in this way, supplemented if they wish by private funding, and let the universities have full freedom to manage that budget effectively and efficiently.

But Oxford University, and its

constituent colleges, already have budgets — admittedly not yet arrived at in such an open market manner — but rather through the University Grants Committee — and for the moment at least they have the freedom to manage those budgets. They rather cut the ground from under my feet when I argue for even more freedom for them to manage, and for a better, more open, direct form of funding if they show themselves incapable of effective management of that budget.

Of course they could find the Regius Chair of Modern History, and of Ancient Greek, if they wanted to. It would clearly require tough decisions elsewhere in the budget. They would have to take decisions on which faculties are inefficient, which professorships, lectureships or assistant lectureships, whether currently filled or vacant, have the intellectual rigour and discipline worthy of a world-class university.

In short, they have to manage

all the time, not just when funds are tight, but equally in times of plenty and expansion.

What a negation of such management to take the easy way out of a two-year freeze on all appointments. Just imagine if a commercial company did that — "I'm sorry there's no sales manager at present because he has retired, but we have plenty of production managers." Oxford must have known that Sir Michael Howard would be retiring in September. Their appointments policy should have planned ahead for such.

Oxford have shown themselves capable of effective management in the past. Maybe when money was plentiful it was easier, and financially possible, to let weak academics and weak departments drift on, rather than having the hassle of making difficult and unpleasant decisions. Maybe they have tightened their belt a little in recent years, perhaps not always in the right places, but are they yet ready to receive the complete

freedom for which they yearn, the freedom to manage?

To have so important a post as Regius Professor of Modern History unified snacks not just of political opportunism, attempting to get publicity and public sympathy with such a dramatic example of their lack of funds. It could backfire. It might be taken as a dramatic example of their lack of managerial ability.

Yes, we want academic freedom, but that comes with a proper market-orientated method of funding, and a competence to manage those funds effectively. No amount of Lords amendments, not even from the Chancellor of Oxford University, is any substitute for that. If Lord Jenkins is concerned that Oxford should remain a "world-class" university, and I share his desire that it should, then he needs to look nearer to home than their Lordships' House.

Let him look at the effectiveness and the efficiency of the university itself, let him question how it is that their financial management and forward planning is in such a muddle that they can even contemplate leaving so important a chair for so important a subject empty, and at a world-class university too. The author is director of the Education Unit, Institute of Economic Affairs.

Geoffrey Goodman

A job too tough for anyone



more strongly against Mrs Thatcher than the climate will change with it.

There is a strong belief that the whole industrial balance of power which has now swung so heavily against the unions and in favour of hard-line management will also change.

Some union leaders believe that public opinion has already had enough of crude union-bashing and that a future government, even a wettish Tory government, would come to recognize that a more co-operative approach to the problems facing industry in the next decade must require a more intelligent approach to the role of the unions.

That may well be true but it won't help Willis or the majority of the TUC leaders to overcome their immediate crisis, which is by no means confined to the conflict with the EETPU.

The essence of Willis's strategy over the past two years has been to buy time by backstage conciliation. That has now collapsed. There may be no ready-made alternative to suspending the EETPU and for a period there could be a serious rupture in the paper unity of the union movement. The Labour leadership is still working hard behind the scenes to avoid this but its chances of success are not great.

Perhaps the break with the EETPU is now inevitable. Perhaps it might even help to concentrate the minds of the other union leaders on what needs to be done to put the TUC house in order.

Trade unionism must become more democratic with the TUC recognizing that power has to be decentralized and blended with a new authority and national code of practice to which all member unions will have to adhere. That is a formidable task for whoever is to lead organized labour into the next century.

Commentary • TONY BLAIR

MPs, please copy

On April 30 the *Bangkok Post* reported that the Thai government had fallen after the resignations of 16 key members. The cause, believe it or not, was the passage of a Copyright Amendment Bill.

It seems a trifle optimistic to think that our own Copyright Designs and Patents Bill will provoke a similar collapse. To-day, however, the parliamentary committee examining the Bill will debate a topic of great controversy inside and outside the music industry: whether copyright owners should be compensated for the illicit copying of their records by the introduction of a levy on blank tapes.

The Bill is a rare and fascinating example of legislation where major interests are in play for relatively minor political stakes. On one side are ranged the creators and those who exploit them commercially. On the other are the serried ranks of users. To complicate matters further, those who produce in one area will consume in another and can pop up on different sides on different issues.

The importance of copyright to industry can hardly be exaggerated. Without its protection, the incentive to invest would be fatally eroded. The artist is paid on the basis of it; the costs of exploitation are reimbursed through it. Yet by granting ownership in ideas, their use is naturally restricted by the owners. At worst, this can lead to monopoly profiteering; more normally, it simply means an inevitable tension between original producers and ultimate consumers since those who produce copies can give the consumer the benefit of the idea without the expense of its development.

Between 80 and 100 million

blank audio tapes are bought in the UK every year. A 1987 survey indicated that around 85 per cent are used to record music, mainly for private use from discs or tapes. Strictly speaking, such copying is illegal. In practice, the law is unenforceable.

So the record industry has proposed a levy payable by those who make or import the tape. On the introduction of such a licensing scheme, the infringement of copyright by individuals would then be made lawful.

Such a solution has found considerable favour abroad. Since 1985 France and West Germany have operated a blank tape levy and Spain has just followed suit. At first, the British government appeared to support such moves. But when the Bill was published in November 1987 the idea had been dropped. No alternative is proposed.

The objections to a levy scheme are genuine and substantial. The blind and visually handicapped rely to a great extent on audio aids; blank tapes are used extensively for language teaching in schools, for dictation in offices and telephone answering machines. Any scheme would have to make due allowance for such uses.

Then there are the more emotive arguments: it is another "tax" the lion's share of which will go to record companies "fat cats" and the Michael Jacksons and Paul McCartneys of the music business. There are less weighty than they seem. The notion of a licensing scheme to raise royalties is well established in the arts and even if it were true, which is debatable, that the money would go to the most successful in the industry, that is hardly a reason for preventing it if it is a legitimate compensation for the infringement of their

copyright. Significantly, the levy has been supported by all the leading musicians' and composers' organizations on the basis that many of their poorer members will benefit.

However, consumer bodies make two further related points. First, they say that about half of home-taping is from the individual's own purchased cassette — the original is used in the home, perhaps, and the copy in the car. This is against the letter of the law but arguably not its spirit. Secondly, they say, rightly, that a levy would involve rough justice: the cost would be added to a tape whether it was used unlawfully or entirely properly.

This is not an easy judgement to make. But for the sake of what would be a small additional cost to the consumer (and there is some evidence from abroad to suggest that the blank tape manufacturers are capable of absorbing most of it) the continuing breach of copyright which owners and composers suffer seems, on balance, rougher than the levy.

The record industry employs directly more than 10,000 people and contributes almost £500 million a year to our invisible exports. It already faces a critical challenge to its future from the nascent record rental business. The principle of copyright protection is thus of paramount importance to the industry and to us all since, if the copyright climate is more congenial abroad, there is a risk of business moving there.

In any event, surely the law cannot be left as it is. A parliament with neither the will to enforce the law nor the courage to change it is failing in its legislative duty. The author is Labour MP for Selkirk.

Yet Willis's critics have become more voluble and certainly far more public. The implied criticism of his leadership from the Postmen's leader, Alan Tufin, on Sunday reflected merely the tip of an iceberg that has been forming since Willis took over from Murray in the middle of the miners' strike in September 1984.

Murray had had enough. He fought for a "new realism" among the unions, arguing courageously that the unions must face up to change rather than pretend that change did not exist. He was scuppered not so much by the miners' strike but

by Mrs Thatcher's insistence that trade unionism should be banned from the Cheltenham GCHQ "spy centre". And Willis was left with a bitter legacy he has never been able to overcome.

It is true that he has another 10 years to go until the existing retiring age of 65, but few members of the General Council believe he would wish to complete the full term. Not that there is so far any serious attempt to unseat him. Apart from anything else that would require an obvious successor — and such a figure is not on the stage.

His recently appointed deputy, John Monks, is an ex-

remely able man in the Kinnock mould and eventually the one most likely to succeed. But not yet. Monks is in his early forties and too new in the No 2 post to be regarded as a serious contender for the time being.

Moreover an alternative to Willis would need to put forward a convincing and viable alternative policy, and that appears to elude practically everyone, including most of the critics.

To be sure there is a tendency to assume that some of the problems facing the unions will resolve themselves given time and political change, that if the political balance begins to move

SCIENCE REPORT

Computer keyboard

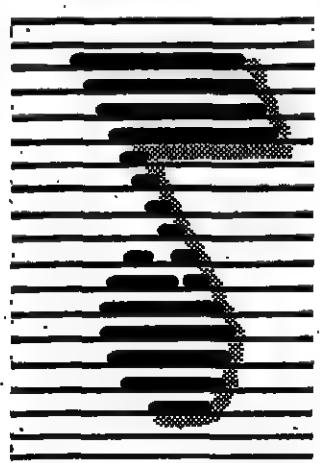
There is more to music than meets the ear. This has been made abundantly clear in a new study of how great performers interpret the classics — or rather, how they do not.

When Bruno Repp, of Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, Connecticut, compared 19 performances of a Beethoven minuet with a computer program supposedly designed to play it as Beethoven would have wished, the machine was found wanting.

That is the gist of what Repp told the 115th meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Seattle last week. To be fair, the computer program was pitted against stiff competition. The performers of the third movement of the Piano Sonata No 18 in E flat major (Opus 31, No 3) included Vladimir Ashkenazy, Murray Perahia, Solomon and Glenn Gould.

The mental processes whereby musicians turn a written score into a polished performance are of great interest to cognitive psychologists. However, the difficulty in making analytical comparisons of musical performances is that, while performances can be compared with one another, there is currently no single objective standard by which they can be assessed.

Manfred Clynes of the University of Melbourne has nevertheless written (and patented) a computer program to fill just this need. Musical notation is sufficiently inexact for there to be plenty of room for the interpretation of volume, time and



John Lawton

Repp judged the interpretation of some of the greatest Beethoven masters in the history of recorded music.

While the computer performance is expressive by its own standards, the attempt to capture the nuances of human interpretation by means of a pulse specific to the composer was largely unsuccessful, chiefly because pianists and program differ fundamentally in their approach to musical expression.

Musicians tend to interpret a piece as they go along, adding appropriate expression as the music demands, rather than imposing the same interpretative formula from key signature to coda.

The 19 performances analysed had some features in common, and in some cases Clynes' "Beethoven pulse" showed through, but these resemblances were outweighed by differences between individual performers' style. Many of the similarities were conditioned by the music rather than by the performer's interpretation.

Repp eventually concluded that the reputation of each performer as a Beethoven player neither stands nor falls by his or her conformity with Clynes' program.

Repp's study provides a wealth of data on interpretation, but there is clearly a long way to go before such imponderables as style can be expressed in numbers. A much larger sample of music from many different composers will be needed.

HENRY GEE

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VOTE OF THE LORDS

With the defeat of Lord Chelwood's wrecking amendment to the community charge legislation, the Government has triumphantly repulsed what had been seen as the most dangerous threat likely to confront it in this parliament. Indeed, the magnitude of its majority is such that it will be tempting to suppose that the threat was always illusory. That, however, is less than the truth.

The misgivings were and are deep, crossing party lines. The Government's majority of 184 was achieved by means of an exceptionally thorough whipping exercise (three line whips are a rarity in the House of Lords) which brought to Westminster peers seldom seen there. It was an attendance second only to that for the European Community legislation.

Yet it would be an error to interpret the division figures purely in terms of a docile Tory vote of backwoodsmen. The truth is rather that the upper House responded to the interior logic of the situation. To have sent Lord Chelwood's inconclusive amendment to the Commons would have created an impasse from which it would have been very difficult to envisage a reasonable outcome.

Had the amendment been carried, the Government would have had two options. It might have made radical concessions, imposing ability-to-pay criteria on the bill, which would have destroyed its essential purpose. Or it would have had to insist that the Commons rejected the amendment by attaching to a three line whip a vote of confidence.

This is always a government's ultimate deterrent against rebellion and the Tory dissidents who in the Commons reduced its majority to 25 would almost certainly have been persuaded to take no risks with the Government's majority if the consequence might have been a crisis — possibly risking a loss of power to Mr. Kinnoch.

But the Lords could then have insisted on the amendment thus in practice exercising their strict constitutional right to delay the amendment for a year. Had that happened, the

Government's intention of bringing the legislation into force in the spring of 1990, fairly well before the next election, would have been frustrated. That would have pushed the Lords' constitutional right of revision to an extreme embarrassing to both Houses.

It seems unlikely that matters would have been pushed to this point. If that was the prospect, logic was against Lord Chelwood's amendment; as Lord Whitelaw indicated in a speech which almost certainly influenced opinions, the Lords would have put at risk their invaluable role as a revising chamber. Nor was the argument clear-cut.

Both sides, the Government as much as its critics, were arguing on grounds of fairness. The Government's critics condemned the bill on the grounds that a flat-rate tax pays no proper regard to ability to pay, and that (as Lord Carr put it) the biggest losers would be those who lose on housing benefits and will benefit least from the budget tax-cuts.

But equally, the Government had a formidable case to make based on the unfairness of the rates and, as another of its critics, Lord Pym conceded, this is (and rightly) common ground between both opinions. Since this is so, an amendment which simply asked the Government to think again without itself proposing anything practicable was an intrinsically weak one. The Lords in the end took this point. As a cross-bench peer, Lord Halsbury put it, the sensible thing was to accept the measure in principle and then, if necessary, deal with any unsatisfactory side-effects in two or three years time.

Now that the major attack on it has been defeated, the Government should drive ahead with placing the act on the statute book as soon as possible. It also needs to intensify its efforts to win public support for the new system, and understanding of it. The rigorous critique of it in the Lords is not to be regretted, but the vote to defeat an amendment which could only have created confusion must be right.

WARD REFORM

The Health Secretary, Mr. John Moore, who has won few plaudits of late, well deserved those he received from the Royal College of Nursing Conference yesterday. He has taken a courageous step on the road to saving hospitals and their patients from the effects of shortages of trained personnel in the 1990s. He has also committed the Government to an ambitious programme which should transform the status, perhaps ultimately also the public image, of nursing.

The demographics of the next decade will hit hard all institutions which rely on a steady intake of young people, the National Westminster Bank as well as the National Health Service. The refurbishment of nursing as a career, more flexible conditions for entry to the training grades, and a new specialism of "nurse-helper" with minimal qualifications looks a promising way of meeting the problem.

Public unease over the inability of hospital theatres to function because of lack of nurses is already high. Mr. Moore might have been tempted to delay his decision on the Project 2000 programme, proposed by the UK Central Council, until the Government's plans for the future of the NHS were out in the open. It is as well he did not, for nursing supply is not just an NHS issue.

Whether hospitals are run by the British United Provident Association or the Bradford District Health Authority, the quality of care they provide depends squarely on the training and motivation of their nursing staff. However NHS hospitals are ultimately to be financed, however their administrative superstructure is changed, the supply of trained manpower for

their wards, theatres, histology labs and consulting rooms is a concern of government. Government alone can take the broad view across the colleges, ensuring that training courses are provided; also the long view ensuring sufficient candidates for an exacting job come forward.

Mr. Moore was tentative yesterday about the cost of his measures. The Government's acceptance of Project 2000 is, in the light of this caution, somewhat qualified. None the less, its decision, and more importantly the atmosphere of constructive agreement in which it was announced to the conference of the Royal College marks a milestone. Here is a recipe — potentially an expensive recipe — for the professionalization of nursing.

In proposing a three-year training, it is effectively a plan for the alignment of nursing with the other specializations requiring a period of higher education. Given the Government's scepticism about some of the privileges enjoyed by certain of the older professions, notably the law and medicine, its ready acceptance of a formula that will give nursing the appurtenances of professional status may seem paradoxical.

Ditto its close understanding with the RCN which is, after all, a trade union and interest group, albeit one with reader public acceptance than others. Both movements are justified by the practical necessity of building a nursing career that will keep efficient operators on the wards, and establishing a pattern of work that does not depend entirely on greater recruitment of a diminishing supply of young women.

THE POPE'S FRENCH REVOLUTION

Schismatics are placed by Dante in one of the lower hells of his Inferno. Schisms are a great sin in the Catholic tradition, and people from within this tradition will do much to avoid the charge of being responsible for them.

This is probably the central reason for the forthcoming visit to Rome of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre. For more than 10 years now, he has been leading a revolt of traditionalist French Catholics against the changes ushered in by the Second Vatican Council. Monsignor Lefebvre's criticisms of the Vatican Council have been such that it is very difficult now to see how compromise can be possible.

The Pope and his most important deputy, Cardinal Ratzinger — while themselves unhappy with some of the interpretations of Vatican II adopted by radical forces within the Church — have repeated the confirmed commitment of the Vatican to the central spirit of the Second Vatican Council. This was reaffirmed at the Extraordinary Synod of bishops in 1985. If Monsignor Lefebvre had been serious about reaching a compromise, the Synod would have been the logical moment to have attempted this. Instead, he has continued to reject Vatican II root and branch.

Today Monsignor Lefebvre, who is 82, cannot be too far from a reckoning with his maker. He has to decide whether his movement will die with him, or whether he will anoint a successor as bishop. If he does this, schism from the Church will be complete, for only the Pope can anoint a bishop. The Vatican is clearly anxious to avoid this.

Reports suggest that the deal which may be in the process of negotiation would involve Monsignor Lefebvre's "Priestly Fraternity of St. Pius" being recognized as an Order within the Church. The Pope would anoint a new bishop. He has already made clear that the celebration of the old mass is not in itself a major problem. In return, Monsignor Lefebvre would have to submit to the authority of the Pope and accept the central doctrinal documents of the Vatican Council.

The Vatican would be well advised to make sure that, should an agreement be reached, the

Archbishop's acceptance of these documents is as unequivocal as his public submission to the Pope. Anything else will appear all too like an example of rebellion rewarded. It would mean that the present Pope had reversed the public stand towards Lefebvre of his predecessor Paul VI — a very bad precedent. It would damage the authority of the French hierarchy, and especially that of Cardinal Lustiger — a converted Jew — in view of the strong streak of anti-semitism among Monsignor Lefebvre's supporters, many of them also followers of Jean-Marie Le Pen.

It would appear especially dangerous in view of the Vatican's disciplining of radical clerics — including some very senior ones — in Latin America. The liberation theologian Father Leonardo Boff, it may be noted, despite his Marxist rhetoric, obeyed without demur when ordered to observe a year of silence by the Church authorities.

Essentially, the iron frame which has held the Catholic Church together over the centuries has been that of discipline and obedience. Such discipline as Monsignor Lefebvre's sits particularly ill on one who calls himself a strong clerical conservative. As such, he can also hardly claim that the present Pope has been behindhand in stressing the eternal verities of the faith, or has been over-ready to compromise with godless communism. Yet for almost 10 years he has continued to withhold his submission.

It may be that neither side really expects a compromise, and that both are only anxious not to appear responsible for the schism to come. If so, however, the Vatican can look forward to the result with more confidence than can Monsignor Lefebvre and his followers. In the long run time is not on their side. With few exceptions, of which a small splinter group like the Fraternity of St. Pius X is not likely to be an example, recent breakaway groups from the Church have withered on the vine, their parochialism contrasting poorly with the Vatican's universality and authority for Catholics.

Summit of hope for refuseniks

From Mr. Sasha Khassin and others

Sir, We are second-generation refuseniks, that is, the grown up children of those who for years have been refused permission to emigrate to Israel on grounds of security.

As we get older (some of us even have children of our own) we must take charge of our own fate independently and without waiting for our parents to receive permission, we have applied for visas separately. However, we remain detained in the Soviet Union in spite of the fact that not even official pretences are proffered. It is a sad fact that while definite democratic change takes place within Soviet society the problem of long-term Jewish refuseniks remains.

Furthermore, legislation concerning emigration is completely lacking. The problem of emigration remains within the despotic realm of arbitrary bureaucratic power and closed to glasnost. The past shows that a solution of our problem depends on the state of Soviet-Western relations and therefore we place great hopes on the forthcoming summit.

One of the greatest successes of the previous summit was, in our opinion, a development of an effective means of controlling the disarmament agreement. We hope that the forthcoming summit will succeed in developing a similar means of control vis-à-vis human rights agreement. This might prove a significant step on the way towards solving our problems.

Yours sincerely,
SASHA KHASSIN,
DIMA SCHWARTZMAN,
OLGA FILMENSTEIN,
ILYA FILMENSTEIN,
SERGEI REZNIKOV,
26 Bakinskikh Komissarov 11,
Moscow 117571,
USSR.
May 15.

Towards 'glasnost'

From the Reverend John Papworth

Sir, Each of the great revolutions of modern history has been accomplished by the destruction of many, and sometimes most, of the established forms of state legitimacy. In this sense revolutionary governments have always been *ultra vires*; but it is noteworthy that there are no exceptions to the rule that sooner or later the previous forms of legitimacy are restored.

Yet it is a mistake to suppose, as it appears does Dr. Conon Cruise O'Brien in your columns today (May 18), that restoration is a matter of revolutionary volition; it is simply that the historical forces which established the older forms of legitimacy in the first place are too strong to be permanently prevailed against.

In the case of the Russian empire this process has been of longer duration than most due in part to the icy ruthlessness of the Bolshevik leaders and their utter disregard of the value of human life, but also to the way the external threat of the rise of Nazism enabled them to rally domestic support for their rule despite their own gruesome excesses.

What we are observing today is nothing less than the long-delayed restoration of legitimacy within the Russian empire, a process bound to be all the more tortuous owing to the absolute forms of rule which have been imposed on the Russian peoples for so many decades.

Rather than regard the emergence of *glasnost* as little more than just another cynical exercise in *realpolitik* I think we should be concerned by our own reactions to see it in its historical perspective and to encourage the new trends, and the forces they represent, to a speedy fruition if only to avoid the risk of adding to the immense burden of suffering already endured by the Russian peoples.

With respect,
JOHN PAPWORTH,
24 Abercorn Place, NW8.
May 18.

Grant-aid for farms

From Mr. J. Padfield

Sir, Your business and finance section of May 9 includes an article by Rodney Lord which argues that industry would benefit greatly from an end to any form of price support and grant-aid to agriculture. But at what price?

Consumers in almost every developed society pay a modest premium in their agricultural prices to preserve the landscape and to secure themselves of the security of food supplies.

British farmers, whose incomes have fallen drastically in real terms for some years, are in no position to suffer further cuts. The result would be an impoverished landscape and a greater dependence on food from elsewhere. And, if the nation becomes more dependent upon others to supply our food, does Mr. Lord think that prices to the consumer will remain stable?

Yes, you pay a modest premium for security — not very different, I suggest, to paying for our defence, health, social security and education.

Yours faithfully,
JIM PADFIELD (Vice-Chairman, Essex County Branch, The National Farmers' Union),
Agriculture House,
160-162 New London Road,
Chelmsford,
Essex.
May 10.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Control of registered drug addicts

From Mr. G. A. T. Shaw

Sir, Having been temporarily the manager of the Government opium factory in Singapore at the beginning of 1941, I was interested to read Charles Bremner's article ("Appeal to remove drugs from the underworld", May 17). The official opium monopoly, which was operated from the early 1920s to 1942 in Singapore, Malaya, Sarawak, North Borneo, Hong Kong and the Netherlands East Indies, had the objectives of reducing the number of opium addicts and controlling illegal traffic in that drug.

About 1920 (I am uncertain of the date) all opium addicts were encouraged to register with their respective governments; they were medically examined and given an individual ration book or refused registration if thought to be bogus applicants. Good-quality cheap opium was produced by the Singapore factory and distributed throughout South-east Asia, being sold to registered opium smokers from Government opium shops.

The minimum age for qualification for registration was 21 in, say,

1921 and this floor was raised one year each year for new applicants. Although this policy was not particularly successful in Hong Kong, the number of younger addicts was significantly reduced in Singapore and Malaya by 1940 and there did not appear to be an unacceptable number of younger illegal opium smokers.

On the other hand, the extent of illegal trafficking in opium was relatively small; there was little profit in it.

The South-east Asian opium monopoly had the blessing of the League of Nations, but was vetoed one way or another in 1946 by the USA and Canada. The flood gates were opened and the illegal traders made vast profits, with the extent of drug addiction becoming so serious in Singapore and Malaya as to warrant the death sentence as the only means of exercising some control of that deadly trade.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. T. SHAW,
19 Kivernell Road,
Milford on Sea,
Lymington, Hampshire.
May 20.

Aids concern

From Dr. J. Roy Robertson

Sir, National attention has focused on drug abuse and Aids on several occasions during the last few years, specifically when reports highlight new increases in numbers injecting drugs and reveal cases of HIV (Aids) infection in drug users or their sexual partners. Suggestions as to what might be done about both these closely linked problems vary from the genuinely sympathetic to the outlandishly dismissive and initiatives grind on without attracting much attention. The belief that problems are being dealt with or that things are in hand is not shared by drug agencies in Edinburgh, where problems are perhaps the most acute in the UK.

The concern troubling us most immediately is over the failure to implement the recommendations of several national committees on methods of prevention of spread of HIV among drug users sharing needles and exposing themselves sexually to infected partners. The original and subsequent recom-

mendations that needles and syringes should be provided in conjunction with other treatments and educational packages were, and are, being ignored.

Three years since testing showed considerable reservoirs of Aids infection in drug users it is still illegal for doctors to provide clean equipment unless the doctors are specifically protected against prosecution. The problem with Aids is that spread is only visible years after it has happened when symptoms develop. It seems clear to some that Government's failure to make clear recommendations allowing doctors to use their knowledge and experience in preventing spread of infection is allowing an ongoing epidemic among drug users and their sexual partners.

No one wants to say in 1993 "we should have..." There seems to be less danger in doing it now. Yours sincerely,
J. R. ROBERTSON,
Edinburgh Drug Addiction Study,
1 Muirhouse Avenue,
Edinburgh 4.
May 16.

Compensation awards

From Mr. Des Wilson

Sir, Bernard Levin (May 16) is, of course, correct; many personal compensation awards in the United States are ludicrously high. In my view, he is also partly correct in his analysis of why such awards are made.

But the cases he quotes are extremes. He must surely accept that it is possible to quote an equal number of cases where people have been the innocent victims of the actions of others, and that they both need and are entitled to fair compensation to assist them to live with the consequences.

Your own newspaper has, in the context of the Open case, rightly called for reform of UK compensation laws, and one of the reforms that we and others may find ourselves increasingly promoting is a form of contingency fee.

Surely the conclusion we should

draw from Bernard Levin's article is not that we should automatically reject contingency fees, or for that matter class actions, no-fault compensation, or many other American ideas, but rather seek to adapt them to British circumstances with sensible controls in order to draw on their strengths and avoid their weaknesses.

What we should aim for in this field is justice. We accept that means justice for all — the claimant, but also the individual or company being sued — but unfortunately the system is currently biased towards the latter. If the United States represents an extreme in one direction, Britain represents an extreme in another. It should not be beyond our wit to strike the correct balance.

Yours,
DES WILSON (Chairman),
Citizen Action Compensation Campaign,
3 Endsleigh Street, WC1.
May 16.

Alcohol on trains

From Mrs. Suzie Hayman

Sir, As a regular traveller on InterCity trains, I am becoming increasingly offended by their policy on the sale of alcohol. Am I really the only one to be worried for the health, and to object to the company, of people drinking beer and spirits at 7 in the morning?

Do all these people have drinking problems which would mean they would bring their own supplies if British Rail did not oblige, or are they just responding to the fact that alcohol is offered for sale?

British Rail are cleaning up their act on the smoking front, and

for that much thanks. Would it be too much to ask that they cast an eye on drinking?

I am sure that the majority of passengers would not find it too much of a burden if alcohol were to be sold only during licensing hours, or even if it could only be enjoyed in a "pub car".

This would also allow the staff to make some effort to observe the law on age — some of the worst offenders and victims of free availability are under 18.

Yours faithfully,
SUZIE HAYMAN,
Kelleth Cottage,
Kelleth, Cumbria.
May 15.

Unfair to referees

From Mr. David Holbrook

Sir, I remember a charming letter from Lord David Cecil which he sent me as a schoolboy, telling me why I had not been given a place at Oxford. I had an equally pleasant personal letter from F. R. Leavis informing me he was giving me an Exhibition there.

Nowadays, I enjoy writing letters as a referee for my students when they are seeking jobs. It takes about 10 minutes to write such a letter, so I try to avoid computerised stereotypes.

The schools who are looking for candidates, however, seem to have become automatons. A form comes, sometimes abrasively scrawled "Urgent Please", and often it barks at me that I must not expect an acknowledgement.

The requests are full of awkward sentences (I am dealing with English posts) like "Although operating on a split site (0.6 mile apart), teaching facilities are generally good", or meaningless sentences (which could be waffled about any circumstances) such as "This is a developing department where all the members have an area of responsibility and are expected to develop their own particular skills within the evolving syllabus and in extra-curricular activities..."

Are the robots taking over? Why can't these English teachers simply write, "I have had an application from So-and-so: is he any good?" Why do enquiries, especially about a subject like English, have to be in educationist-speak? Yours &c,
DAVID HOLBROOK,
Downing College, Cambridge.
May 16.

Another poll tax

From Mr. J. A. C. Hill

Sir, Conditions in the Pacific territories were so different that comparisons with Britain are very useful, but my experience in Fiji was exactly opposite to that of Mr. Goodwin (May 17) in Kiribati. Residential tax — that is, poll tax — was levied on Europeans and Indians. There were no evasions. Cost of collection was negligible.

Fijians should have paid provincial rates. These were so unpopular that a large proportion of those who should have paid preferred to go to jail rather than pay and the provinces were always in financial difficulties.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. C. HILL (former Divisional Commissioner, Fiji),
Tynley Lodge, Newnham,
Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Verbal dexterity

From Mr. John J. White

Sir, We have a whole department devoted to "prioritizing" mortgages. Cap that? Yours faithfully,
JOHN J. WHITE,
Cameron Markby,
Moor House, London Wall, EC2.

From Dr. A. H. Abrahams
Sir, Last month I gave intravenous Diamorphine to a patient suffering a heart attack before admitting her to hospital. Today I received a report from the hospital that "the patient had been in pain until analgesed by her GP". Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY ABRAHAM,
Temple Cowley Health Centre,
Temple Road, Oxford.
May 20.

Avoiding risks with inflation

From the Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry

Sir, Your leader, "A clearer pound" (May 18), described me as a "dangerous ally" of the Government. The clear implication, that business is soft on inflation, is simply not correct.

The CBI welcomed the cut in base rates as a measure which would help to take the speculative heat out of sterling without running risks with inflation.

Lower interest rates will not affect the growth in outstanding credit-card debt, the vast proportion of which (over 95 per cent) is repaid within the interest-free period. Moreover, UK interest rates remain some five points higher than in West Germany.

A strong low-inflation economy will inevitably be reflected in an appreciating currency. But the cart must not come before the horse. Sterling's rise of 6 per cent against both the dollar and the Deutschmark in as many weeks did not reflect the underlying health of the economy so much as speculators' views — with such high interest rates — that the pound was a certain bet.

The rise has seriously eroded, and in some cases removed entirely, profit margins for many exporters, and it has increased the competitiveness of imports! It is manufacturers who pay the price for an overvalued currency.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BANHAM,
Director-General,
Confederation of British Industry,
103 New Oxford Street, WC1.
May 19.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 24 1915

In 1915 John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweeddale (1875-1940) was *The Times* Correspondent on the Western front — the same year in which he wrote his best known book, *The Thirty Nine Steps*.

THE SAGA OF YPRES.

FEATS OF TERRITORIALS AND YEOMANRY.

(From John Buchan.)
British Headquarters, May 22.

... Round the pleasant chateau where I am now writing there is billeted the London Rifle Brigade, whose numbers were sadly reduced during the second battle of Ypres, where it played a part of which even the famous 4th Guards Brigade might be proud. You will find all sorts and conditions in its ranks. This lean veteran was a year ago a spruce clerk on the Stock Exchange, travelling to the City every morning in the sombre regimentals of his class. He looks now like a big-game hunter from Equatorial Africa. That stern disciplinarian of a non-commissioned officer was a year ago a business man who cultivated tulips in his suburban garden. Now from him to Surbiton is a far cry.

Yesterday in a certain part of the front I came upon a Territorial battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. There you had every variety of the familiar speech, from the stout metropolitan Scots of the Lothians to the more drawing speech of the west of the rich idiom of Paisley. There were among them mechanics from the cities and tradesmen from the towns and ploughmen from the Cause of Stirling and herds from the Ochils. A year ago these men had no bond of common interest. They backed their favourite football teams, and differed in politics, and lived each in his self-contained little world. Many of them were pasty and flabby from unhealthy trades. Now they are bearded and brown and dishevelled and as hard as steel. They look as if they had been years in war. They have been caught up from narrow interests into one mighty crusade. They are going to "beat the Boches." One or two who served in South Africa still call the enemy "Boers."

Here are some of the Territorial achievements. On May 2, when the Germans made one of their worst gas attacks, the 7th Argylls charged through the poison cloud and carried a trench. The 9th Argylls had no less than 900 eight-inch shells in their trenches and still stayed in them. On May 13, the day of the great attack upon our cavalry, the London Rifle Brigade did marvels. Only 278 men were left in the battalion by this time, and during the day 91 of these fell. In one trench Sergeant Belcher commanded four survivors of his regiment and two Hussars whom he had picked up. His trench was blown to pieces, and he had to face a German attack fire, by accurate and rapid rifle fire, he succeeded in repulsing. No more heroic game of bluff has ever been played and it saved the whole right of the 4th Division. Splendid, too, was the record of the Monmouths... London and Lancashire, Scotland and South Wales, have cause to be proud of their citizen levies...

THE ARTS

The news that fits

TELEVISION

Here was the news for Tuesday 22 March: NUS officials quacked and honked in Dover; Iraq launched a gas attack on Iran; a lady in blue made St James's Park fit for wildfowl; her Government demanded untransmitted footage of an IRA funeral from BBC News.

Horizon (BBC2) laboured to interest its audience in the technical processes that enabled the collation and dissemination of these items. How newsworthy this was in itself is moot: archive sequences of film stock spooling through a 40-minute "soup" looked exactly that — archival.

Having structured itself around one working day, the programme fell back on a kind of pseudo-excitement, generated by looming deadlines. This entailed having its cameras follow other cameras in the field, and lope down the grim corridors of the Television Centre, while the seconds ticked away. All the computer wizardry and Land Rover in the world were as nothing beside this viewer's fer-

vent (and unanswered) prayer that something would come crashingly unstuck during live transmission.

In seeking to illuminate the arena of the newperson's craft, *Horizon* did at least confirm what many might already have suspected: that when the studio lights dim and the closing theme music swells, Nicholas Witchell says: "Well, there we are," and Sue Lawley chips in with: "Thank you all very much."

The *Huddersfield Daily Examiner* was one of the first newspapers in the country to be computerized: this does not appear to have modulated its traditional concern with guide-dog luncheons and town-centre shopping proposals. "The money trap," intoned the newshound who presented *Open Space* (also BBC2), "Alcoholism," he went on, "divorce... why bother?"

The way of course, advertising to the lot of his colleagues on the national press. In distinguishing himself from them, he was not ashamed of being filmed downing Tetley's bitter in public.

Martin Cropper

Spring charms

ASME/Marriner Festival Hall

Haydn's last oratorio, *The Seasons* needs and deserves performances like this one, given by the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Sir Neville Marriner as part of the South Bank's "End Games" series, to remind us how miraculously imaginative it really is. It revolves around the principle of profundity "masquerading" as simplicity, approaching its subject through the wide-eyed observations of three country folk and disguising the workings of its musical substance (which cost Haydn, on his own admission, a draining effort) with a thick overlay of compelling drama.

Sir Neville powered the music onwards in a gloriously celebratory manner, helped by the Academy's own vibrant Chorus of firm, young voices, around 100 of them, disciplined to perfection by László Fehlay. He also had the advantage of an intelligent team of soloists, spearheaded by the still magnificent voice of Edith Mathis, as Harriet, pure and directly expressive, whether in her wonder at Spring's growth or in melting

hearts with her spinning song in the more mellow, twilight atmosphere of Winter.

There was also Benjamin Luxon as Lukas, jovial and countervailing with a bounciness to his rhythm and a welcome flexibility in vocal colour. And Malwyn Davies, relishing his slight in terms of vocal weight, was a thoroughly musical late replacement for Peter Schrier in the tenor role of Simon.

Sir Neville's tempos tended slightly towards the bright and brisk, with no hint of hesitations between individual numbers to hinder the celebrations. Though one or two small passages of recitative were cut from the text, there were little damaging significances.

All this, together with a crisp, orchestral performance which nevertheless showed an obvious relish for Haydn's richly expressive harmonies, notably in the four orchestral preludes to each section, ought to have sent every member of the audience away with a joyful spring in the step.

Stephen Pettit

Given a flying start

Joshua Bell is no run-of-the-mill debutant. The young American violinist, now 21, has been on the international performing circuit since his mid-teens, and now has a contract with a certain record company, only too eager to market his work with the help of his clean-cut boy-next-door image.

No complaints about that. If it helps it helps, and this concerto appearance with the London Symphony Orchestra under the rather clumsy conducting of Yuri Ahronovitch proved that his is a deserving talent.

The fact that the work that he gave was the Bruch's G minor Violin Concerto might have made the occasion almost an irrelevance, had he not managed to make the old chestnut sound so refreshingly immediate. One

LONDON DEBUT

hopes that the future will show him to possess a mind open and independent enough to enable him to explore the substantial and neglected — Bruch's other concertos work on the justice of his own age, for instance.

For the moment, it suffices to praise a violinist of genuine promise, manifest in the glorious quality of his sound, far removed from the monochromatic tendencies of many of his peers, and in his invaluable ability to breathe life into phrasing and hence personality into interpretation.

S.P.

'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE

by John Ford



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WORLD TOUR VERSION

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Re-writing the wrongs

GALLERY

I Fenici

Palazzo Grassi, Venice

So did Gustave Flaubert, in *Salammbô*, do for the Carthaginians very much what Shakespeare did for Richard III — that is, create a child-scaring myth so insidiously potent that no one ever afterwards wanted to believe the boring historical truth that they were all mild, peace-loving, woman-respecting good guys.

Well, possibly. That certainly seems to be the central thesis of the latest giant exhibition sponsored by Fiat at the Palazzo Grassi in Venice, *I Fenici*, alias *The Phoenicians* (until November 2).

A few years ago, the big *Vikings* show in London tried to convince us that the Vikings were not wholly devoted to rape and pillage, but also cultivated the land and loved their children. Probably true, if not so alluring as the traditional image.

But at least the show's organizers had a lot of evidence to go on, especially in the writings of the Vikings, and did not have a politically sensitive issue breathing down their necks. The organizers of *I Fenici* are not so lucky. Though Phoenician writing exists, and is decipherable, there seem to be no literary texts whatever.

More to the immediate point, it is today an issue around the southern and eastern Mediterranean — especially in Tunis — that the Phoenicians, and their offshoot the Carthaginians, must be re-assessed as not only technical innovators and the inventors of writing as we know it today, but also as a strong and independent culture, whose



An enigma in marble: Four-century BC sarcophagus, with a Phoenician inscription, from the collection of the Palazzo Grassi, Venice.

sterling values have been deliberately minimized or suppressed by the jealous Egyptians, Greeks and Romans.

Certainly, in this large and beautifully presented exhibition, ancient Phoenician people in such a way that they become an integral part of the story.

And if what you primarily want to see is a collection of extraordinary artefacts, tellingly displayed without worrying too minutely about their pedigree, *I Fenici* is certainly for you. The exhibition has been laid out by Gae Aulenti, the architect of the renovated Palazzo Grassi itself.

There are moments when it seems over-ambitious, like the huge Phoenician map of the world, which is a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it, a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it, a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it.

The Phoenician map of the world, which is a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it, a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it, a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it.

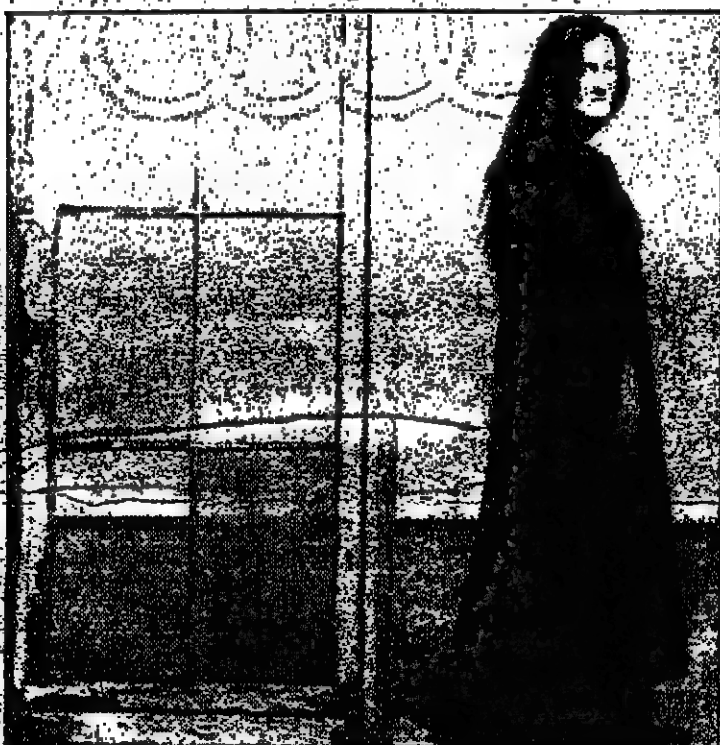
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Wooded by whales and witty women



Suggestive aspects from *Whale Nation*, by the Macmillan Project.

Whale Nation/Nominate Whale Third Eye Centre Glasgow

It is a little while since a poet of a playwright. His long poem *Whale Nation* is performed on stage by Roy Hutchings, which probably makes him both: I get the impression from the poem that he might rather be a whale for this performance is a poem of praise to these great denizens of the deep.

It is not an easy or elaborate poem, but it is a poem of praise to these great denizens of the deep. It is not an easy or elaborate poem, but it is a poem of praise to these great denizens of the deep.

The poem is a poem of praise to these great denizens of the deep. It is not an easy or elaborate poem, but it is a poem of praise to these great denizens of the deep.

THEATRE

There are moments when it seems over-ambitious, like the huge Phoenician map of the world, which is a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it, a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it, a map of the world as the Phoenicians saw it.

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No compromises

JAZZ

Anthony Braxton ICA, London

Panoramic vision or sheer megalomania? There is no avoiding the question when Anthony Braxton's music comes under discussion. How else can you approach the output of a multi-instrumentalist whose output includes a piece for 100 tubas, not to mention an as yet uncompleted series of 12 operas, of 36 interchangeable acts?

Even more grandiose is the so-called Series A, planned for up to 100 orchestras in four different cities, connected by satellite. A companion piece is even conceived for orchestras in different galaxies: like his fellow-mystic Sam R. Braxton invites veneration or mere ridicule, according to your point of view.

Sunday's recital was on a less ambitious scale, with the Chicago-born composer playing unaccompanied alto saxophone, a practice which dates back as far as the 1968 album, *For Alto*. Shambling into view in a well-worn cardigan, he remained on stage for approximately two hours.

By the end the devotees were clearly delighted. The unconverted probably felt in need of the kind of explanation on offer in Graham Lock's new study, *Force in Motion*, published by Quartet. Given the forbidding subject matter, this account of Braxton's 1985 English tour is surprisingly entertaining. Though Braxton's philosophy remains impenetrable, Lock conveys a sympathetic portrait of an artist on the margins.

Hard-core fans might be interested to know that publication coincides with the release of *The Coventry Concert*, a recording from the same tour. But, since the album has been denounced by Lock as a travesty, the less said the better, perhaps.

Clive Davis

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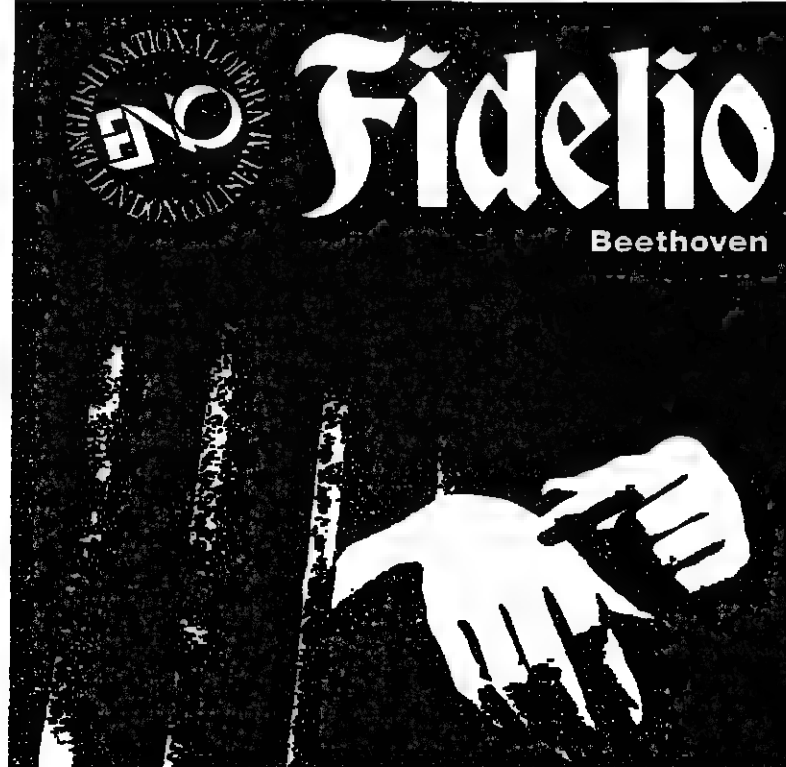


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Production restaged by David Welsh

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Costumes Eleanor Kreiber

Original lighting Reinhard Zimmermann and Roger Frith

English National Opera

London Coliseum

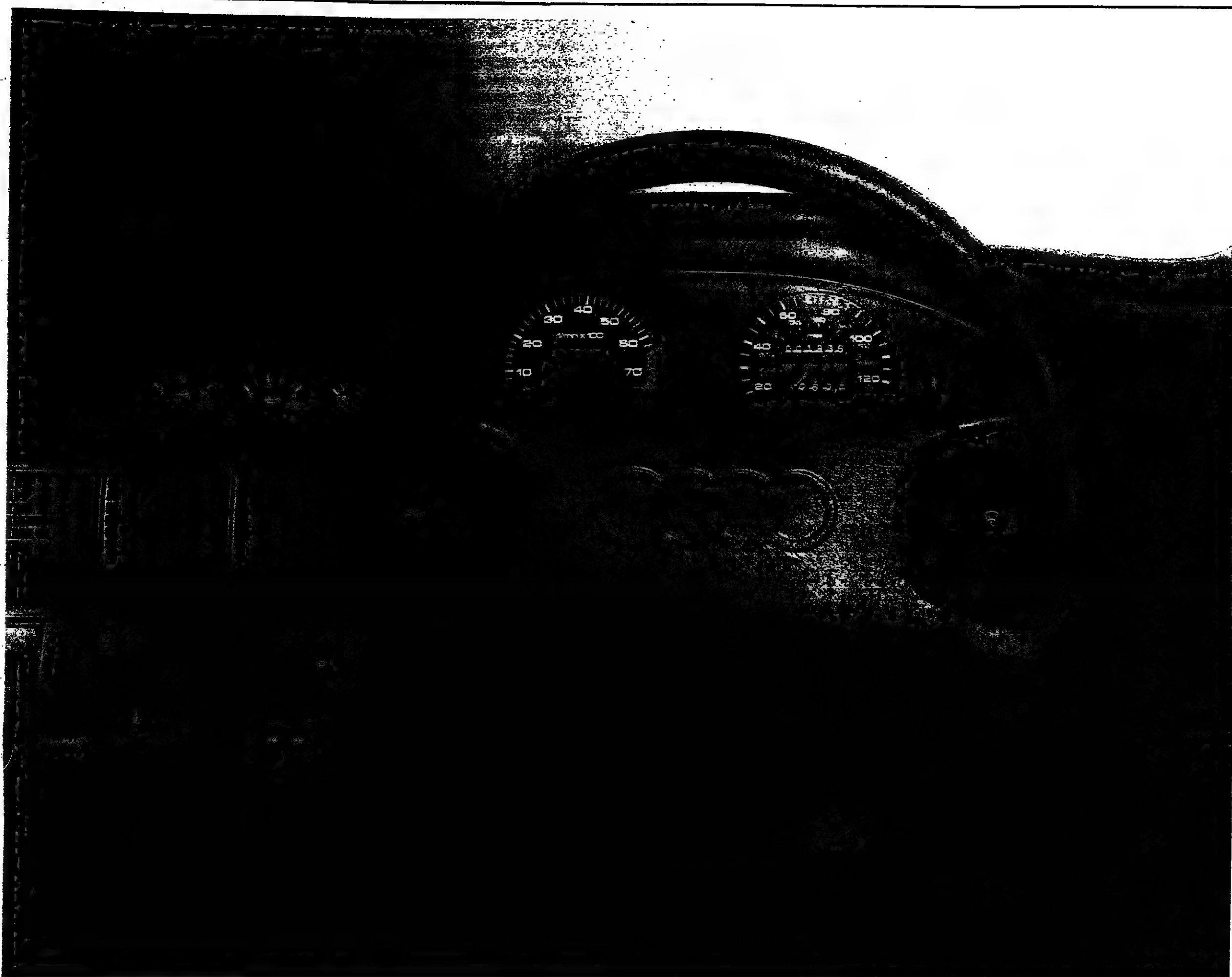
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AT 70MPH, THE NEW AUDI 100 MAKES LESS NOISE THAN YOU WILL TURNING THIS PAGE.



'DR WIMMER will be with you shortly,' said the secretary as she handed us copies of the London dailies.

'DR WIMMER? But isn't he head of acoustics?' we asked.

'THAT'S RIGHT.'

WE SANK into our seats in dismay.

'GENTLEMEN, SORRY to have kept you,' said Dr Wimmer pulling up a chair.

'WE WERE hoping to see someone from the styling department,' we murmured.

'I THINK I'll be able to help.'

'ABOUT THE 100's elegant new interior?' we questioned.

'OF COURSE. The 100's new interior was designed by engineers; acoustic, climatic and ergonomic, like myself.'

WE STRAIGHTENED in our seats.

'THE DESIGN objective was to make the 100 one of the most comfortable and enjoyable cars to drive, not to make it pretty,' continued Dr Wimmer.

'YOU SEE, noise, climate and seating are the main causes of driver fatigue.

'WHEN NOISE rises beyond a certain level, it has a physiological effect on the body. Arteries contract, the heart beat rises and blood pressure increases.'

'THAT'S WHY you feel so drained after long drives.'

'EXACTLY.'

'AT 70MPH, the noise in the cabin is just 66.5 decibels,' whispered Dr Wimmer.

'TO GIVE you some idea how quiet that is, the newspaper you were reading creates approximately 72 decibels every time you turn a page.'

'CAN THAT be proved?' we asked excitedly.

Audi 'OF COURSE.'

'THAT'S VERY interesting, but isn't the car's quietness due to its aerodynamics?' we asked.

'THE AERODYNAMICS are responsible for the low level of wind noise. However, much of the cabin noise is in fact structure-borne noise which is caused by vibration. To reduce this, the engine and drive train are rubber mounted. The cabin lining materials also have a high sound absorption coefficient.'

'SOUND ABSORPTION coefficient?' we queried, realising our mistake no sooner than we had opened our mouths.

'YES, THE sound absorption coefficient is the ratio of the non-reflected sound energy to the incident sound energy. With total reflection, $\alpha=0$; with total absorption, $\alpha=1$. The 100's interior absorption coefficient varies between 0.7-0.9.' We'd forgotten that we were talking to an Audi engineer.

'ER... YES, so what about the cabin climate?' we suggested.

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'YOU SEE, every aspect of the interior has been examined and improved where possible. The seating designer even brought in medical experts to help develop the optimum driving position. From an anatomical point of view, they found that the most comfortable hip-joint angle was 100°.'

'NATURALLY, MY colleagues will be able to go into this in more detail.'

HEAVEN FORBID.

SILENCE DESCENDED on the room.

'YOU ARE writing another advertisement for our cars in Britain?' enquired Dr Wimmer.

'YES.'

'PERHAPS THE newspaper idea... sorry gentlemen. I'll stick to acoustics. If you need any further information, I'll be glad to help.'

SOMEHOW WE didn't think that would be necessary.

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TECHNOLOGY

Ozone hole: it is man's fault

By Pearce Wright

The latest results of research by an international team of scientists has provided the conclusive evidence showing that the hole in the ozone layer in the atmosphere is caused by CFCs, the family of man-made chlorofluorocarbon compounds used in aerosols, refrigerators and air-conditioning systems.

First details of the studies were outlined in London last week by Dr Geoff Jenkins, a meteorologist and scientific adviser to the Department of the Environment's air-quality division.

He described the discovery to a conference of experts from the refrigeration and air conditioning industry, who met to examine how they might cope with the internationally agreed restrictions on the use of CFCs, which take effect next year.

At stake for the UK industry is a £250-million-a-year turnover in domestic business and a large export trade, in equipment and systems that depend on the use of CFCs as a refrigerant.

While attention has concentrated on the hazards to the environment of CFCs used as propellants in aerosols, less has been heard about the same compounds used in the machines of ice-cream vendors, domestic refrigerators and deep freezers, supermarket display cabinets, industrial food stores, refrigerator lorries and air-conditioning plants.

From July next year manufacturers face the start of restrictions on the use of the three main CFC substances needed as refrigerants. A timetable for a phased withdrawal of CFCs under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was thrashed out at a meeting of the UN Environment Programme last autumn. The controls start next year by halting production of CFCs at 1986 levels, at about 1 million tonnes a year.

Spreading more rapidly than was expected

Over the next four years, consumption and production will be cut to 80 per cent of that level, and over the subsequent five years to 50 per cent. But with the latest discoveries, Dr Jenkins advised the industrialists to be prepared to see political pressure to shorten the timetable and impose more stringent limits.

The reason lies in new discoveries that were presented two weeks ago, at the Centre for Atmospheric Studies in Colorado. It was a special meeting of teams of international scientists, who are collaborating on research into the causes of ozone destruction.

His team was also the first to suggest in 1974 that CFCs could diffuse into the stratosphere, where they would release chlorine to destroy the ozone shield.

Consequently, the amount of ultra-violet radiation reaching the earth's surface would increase, giving rise to more fatal and non-fatal skin cancers, cataracts, and other injuries to people and plants.

But it was another four years before Professor Molina's fears were confirmed when scientists working with Dr Joe Farman, of the British Antarctic Survey, observed a hole growing in the ozone layer.

Recent observations by satellite showed that the ozone hole, which expands with the beginning of spring, was spreading more rapidly than expected by theoretical calculations based on those reactions.

Is time up for the disc?

Andrew Pollack reports on some promising developments in computer memory technology

Computer memory technology is advancing so rapidly that some engineers believe that in the next decade silicon chips will start to replace magnetic discs as the main way of storing information in computers.

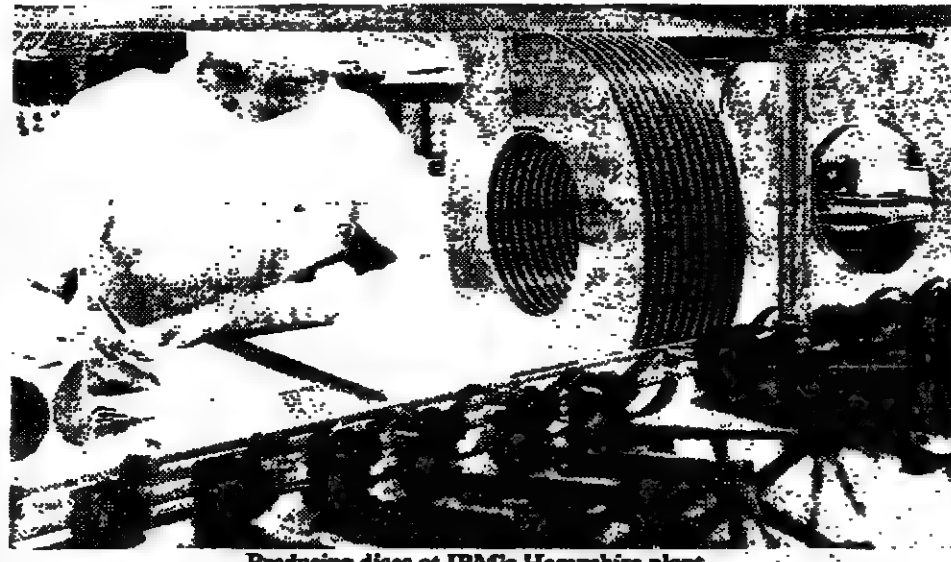
Such a development would mean a vast change in the way computers are designed. Information would be stored and software would be sold on wallet-size cards containing chips. Floppy discs handle those jobs now. Computers would be faster, quieter and more portable without disc drives.

Such forecasts are fuelled by several factors. One is that silicon memory chips continue to gain in storage capacity and decline in the cost per bit stored at a rate faster than magnetic memories.

Today's most advanced memory chip can store a million bits of information. But the four-megabit chip is just around the corner and the 16-megabit chip has already been produced in several laboratories. By the turn of the century, a single chip will probably store 1 billion bits of information. That is equivalent to 135 million bytes, six times the capacity of the 20-megabyte hard disc now sold with many personal computers.

Moreover, progress is being made in overcoming a main drawback of most memory chips — their loss of memory once the electric power is turned off. Magnetic discs do not have this problem.

Finding a memory chip that retains its memory without electrical power, but still re-



Producing discs at IBM's Hampshire plant

mains fast and cheap has been the equivalent of the chip industry's holy grail. Now two new kinds of memory chips — flash memories and ferroelectric memories — offer the promise of meeting these requirements.

Silicon enthusiasts say that at the rate their industry is developing, silicon will approach the cost per bit of magnetic storage by the end of the century.

Such projections, however, elicit "nothing but gales of laughter" from the disc drive manufacturers, said James Porter, editor of *Disc-Trend*, a market research firm in the US that follows the disc drive industry. Magnetic discs account for the vast majority of bits stored because they are far cheaper than chips. A 20-megabyte hard disc costs a couple of hundred pounds. Storing the same amount with today's one-megabit chips would require 160 chips at a cost of more than £1,200.

Discs are also declining in cost and increasing in capacity at a rapid rate and getting smaller, too. The 3.5 inch disc is replacing the 5.25 inch disc, and a 2 inch disc is coming soon.

Moreover, despite the dramatic advance of silicon memory technology there are some problems. For one thing, chips are now more difficult to manufacture. Production problems are plaguing even the one-megabit chip, which is one reason why the chips are now in short supply.

To replace discs, however, memory chips will have to retain their information when the power is turned off. One approach being used is to package memory chips with batteries, but batteries themselves can run out of power. Bubble memories, an approach tried several years ago, never caught on. A more recent contender, electrically erasable programmable read-only memories, or E-erasable PROMs, have also not caught

on as fast as expected because they are expensive and somewhat slow.

Now two new contenders have emerged: the flash memory and the ferroelectric memory. Intel will soon introduce its first flash memory, capable of storing 256,000 bits of information. Seeq Technology of California and Japan's Toshiba are also pushing flash-memory technology.

There are problems with flash memories, however. While information can be read from the chips quickly, it takes a long time to erase and record information. Moreover, the chips slow down sometimes after a few hundred cycles of erasing and recording.

Flash memories use what is known as a floating gate. It can be envisioned as a little bucket isolated above the chip that is either filled with electrons or empty, indicating a one or a zero. To get electrons into the bucket, they are accelerated rapidly and can make it over

the side of the bucket, just like a person sometimes needs a running start to vault over a wall.

Once inside the bucket, the electrons cannot climb out. To get the electrons out — to erase the memory — a trap door is provided in the bucket.

The second contender is the ferroelectric memory, which is being pursued by two start-up companies, Ramtron in Colorado Springs and Kyrasys in New Mexico. Ferroelectricity is the electrical counterpart of ferromagnetism. When iron is placed in a magnetic field, its atoms align themselves with the field, so that all north poles point in one direction and the south poles in the other.

Even when the original magnetic field is removed, the iron retains its magnetization. Magnetic discs use this technology as well — iron oxide particles on each little spot on the disc align themselves so that their north poles point in one of two directions, indicating a zero or a one.

Ferroelectric materials, which are ceramics, similarly align their electric charges when exposed to an electric field. All the positive charges point in one direction and the negative charges in the other, and the alignment can be reversed. Hence such materials can store a zero or a one.

Could ferroelectrics be the holy grail? Dataquest, a market research firm that follows the semiconductor industry, has pronounced them "the memory the market always wanted."

Both flash memories and ferroelectrics are likely in the beginning to steal business from E-erasable PROMs. It will probably be years before they take on dynamic RAMs.

ICL losing its standards place

By Richard Sarson

Peter Bonfield, chairman of ICL, describes his company as "small in world terms, but a good company to work with particularly on standards".

But last week, ICL was conspicuously absent at the launch of the Open Software Foundation, when the flower of the American and European computer industries, including IBM, Digital Equipment Corporation, Honeywell Bull, Siemens and Nixdorf, pledged to promote "an open, rational and equitable process to help establish the standards our customers demand".

That ICL should be absent was particularly poignant, because the main most responsible for the opening-up of European industry was Mr Bonfield's predecessor, Bob Whitelaw, who called for other Europeans, and later some of the Americans, into groups to push for open standards.

He is credited with reducing the move towards IBM's proprietary standard, SNA, which could give the company great influence in such areas as large computer networks.

His successor, Peter Bonfield, made a further move last month, when he announced ICL's intention to adopt a technology, SPARC, which should further help the move towards open systems.

The American companies, Unisys and Xerox had already joined the SPARC bandwagon. Mr Bonfield hoped to move the bandwagon into Europe but this was not to be.

All the other companies were afraid that AT&T and Sun were trying to dominate the Unix world, and last week decided to build an alternative to AT&T's Unix, based, paradoxically, on AIX, IBM's direct of Unix.

Mr Bonfield is now left out in the cold, separated from his European friends.

Unsurprisingly, ICL's success as a standard-bearer for Europe has not been matched by comparable worldwide growth. Western Europe in particular stagnated in the few years after ICL's financial crisis in 1981, as ICL managers turned their attention to rebuilding the home market. During this time European companies like Nixdorf, which had been divided

by ICL in the 70s, overtook them. Some countries, France, Italy, Holland and the US have done well for ICL in the retail industry.

The supermarket chains, Carrefour in France and Kinosco in Italy, have more than a thousand of ICL's point-of-sale terminals.

But an attempt to make West Germany a centre for computer integrated manufacture has come unstuck, largely because the market is already crowded, being a target for most other computer manufacturers.

Another problem in Europe has been that the local subsidiaries were too small to sell the whole range of ICL products and staff in some countries have been slow to make switches.

But now, 70 per cent of new orders are for the smaller open systems, which will be the platform for expansion in the future.

One snag is that ICL's somewhat limited palette of hardware and software, although aimed at low-cost, highly innovative products with which to recapture Europe.

One technological lead is in electronic data interchange, though ICL is inhibited by an agreement with GE Information Services from marketing it outside the UK.

Geovis, which have to come by acquisition. Alternatively, last week, such as the Unix world, something though it may be to ICL's relationships with the other Europeans, may provide the competitive edge that ICL needs.

The steady grouping of the Open Systems Foundation will not be able to provide this, however. Their products are in 1987 at 1986.

Meanwhile, ICL and its new friends in the AT&T camp need to be able to close up with today's standard Unix and the SPARC architecture, which they can offer today.

ICL may have lost friends, but it may gain market share at home.

If it does so, Mr Bonfield may find European predators looking at ICL's UK market as an extension of their national markets.

Music can make a sound way to approach a data project

Nick Nuttall listens in as two scientists attempt a method to counter data boredom

A novel approach to the desensitization many technicians experience when ploughing through reams of data has been developed by two biochemists who are setting chemical samples to music in a bid to fight the so-called black-box effect.

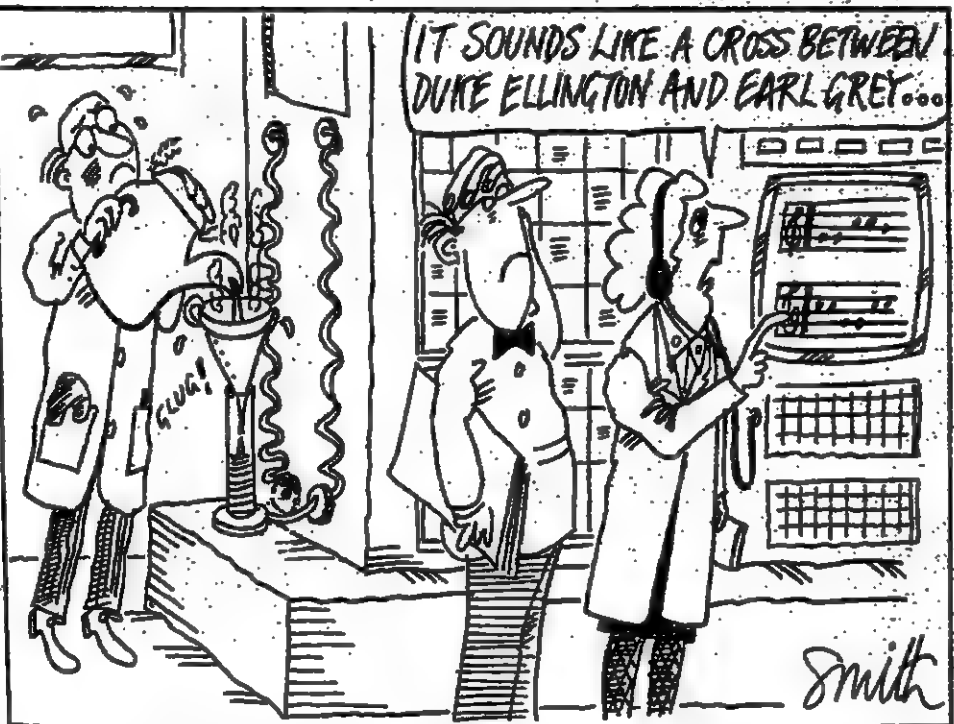
Doctors Jack Holland and Charles Sweetley claim that scoring substances to familiar tunes or an atonal pattern of notes has transformed the tedium of their laboratory's heavy load and improved the accuracy of their work.

The scientists, who have created a machine which automatically analyzes samples, presenting its results musically, believe the principle is so simple that the concept can be applied to any detection device in the medical, scientific or industrial fields.

And think tuning chemical analysis to music could open up the area to the blind who, says Dr Holland, "generally have extremely sensitive hearing which could prove very useful in identifying the subtle musical differences that indicate something is wrong with a sample."

The idea grew out of their work in the biochemistry department of Michigan State University (MSU), where Doctors Sweetley and Holland analyze urine samples for signs of inherited metabolic disease primarily in newborn babies.

Dr Holland explained: "A typical sample will contain 200 to 250 compounds with up to 400 capable of being present. We decided it would be easier to automate analysis and initially programmed the computer to recognize an unusual compound and tell the operator how much was there."



"We thought there had to be other ways in which we can interact with the data and decided to try sound."

Harnessing the talents of one of the university's programmers who had studied music, they set about ascribing notes to each of the 400 compounds stored in their chemical library and converted the size and width of an analysis graph peaks into frequency, loudness and pitch.

They then linked their gas chromatograph to a computer, integrator and a Moog synthesizer so data could be displayed both on screen and musically.

Dr Holland says two tuneful ways of presenting the information have been developed.

"You can do it atonally where the patterns relationships of the samples are presented to the user," he said. "We have found the ear can often spot these easier than the

eye. In fact, two visually almost identical samples, can sound very different when set to notes."

The other technique, which has proved popular among the MSU team, has been to force fit urine data to familiar and well-known tunes such as "God Save The Queen".

"If the sample is significantly above or below a certain quantity the computer will register this and instruct the synthesizer to alter the pitch. Also if a compound which should be present is absent there will be simply no note."

"Our studies have shown that a researcher immediately recognizes a faulty theme and thus a dubious sample," explained Dr Holland, who says the familiar tune approach works because most people carry the melody around in their heads as a "standard curve".

Their novel approach has stimulated interest both in the US and Australia and not just among scientists. It seems the biochemistry department at MSU is regularly assailed by disc jockeys keen to get their latest urinalysis Top Ten.

Dr Holland finds it all extremely amusing but stresses the application of melody to sampling is the path forward for detection machine manufacturers.

He said: "Apart from the fatigue experienced by many people staring all day at visually represented data there are other enormous advantages."

If ECGs were made more musical doctors would not have to keep looking at a screen to see differences in heart strokes he argues.

He can just listen even on the other side of the room in a pleasant musical way telling instantly if there is a problem, said Dr Holland.

Apple promises equipment to LEAs

By Geoff Wheelwright

A shining example of the Government's ideal of co-operation between education and industry was announced last week as Apple Computer unveiled a deal to supply 19 local education authorities (LEAs) with more than £250,000 worth of computers and software.

The centres, which should be operating by the end of June, will be staffed by members of the relevant LEAs.

According to Steve Heppell, lecturer in educational computing at the Essex Institute of Higher Education — and the driving force behind the first centre due to open at the institute this week — the centres could make a big difference to the level of technology related teacher and student training available throughout the country.

But Mr Heppell denies that it is because the Apple equipment is free that the Apple Macintosh is being chosen for teacher training. He said that many schools in the area had started buying Macintosh equipment anyway.

Mr Heppell added: "We will now be working on computers that are like what it will be in the future — rather than what it was four years ago."

He said the Macintosh style of computing — where users issue commands and control the computer via representative pictures and the use of an on-screen pointer and a mouse controller — is being initiated throughout the computer industry, but remains one of the most engaging and intuitive ways of getting children to use computers for non-computing tasks.

Computer companies have usually either sold equipment to educational institutions at a reduced rate or donated surplus models of obsolete systems.



Laughing all the way to Tropics

Congratulations from Heinz Woolf, one of the judges in *The Times*/CMG humour competition, for the first prizewinner, Noel Bain and his wife Margaret, of Wetherby, West Yorkshire, who won a holiday on the Indian Ocean island of Reunion. Heinz Woolf, popularly known for the TV *Egg Race*, is director of Brunel Institute for Bioengineering.

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Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Barclays issue success

Barclays Bank said yesterday that its controversial £921 million rights issue had been a success, as 95 per cent of the shares had been taken up. The rest of the 369.1 million deep-discounted shares were sold at an average 142p premium to the 250p offer price.

Barclays's institutional shareholders will now be watching to see how efficiently the bank invests the large amount of new capital. The mammoth issue - the largest share sale ever undertaken by a British bank - caused unhappiness among shareholders when it was first announced in March.

ABF up 11%

In the aftermath of its lapsed bid for S&W Berisford, Associated British Foods, the milling and baking group, is seriously considering a number of possible acquisitions. ABF matched market expectations with pretax profits up 11 per cent to £210.4 million for the year to April 2. A second interim dividend of 5.8p was declared, making a total of 8.3p for the year.

Continued page 26

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	1837.89 (-14.78)
Tel Aviv	Nikkei Average	8298.76 (-144.08)
Hong Kong		
	Hang Seng	2480.23 (-1.01)
Amsterdam	Amst. 100	1461.3 (-0.50)
Sydney		
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	Closed
Brussels	Generale	Closed
Paris	CAC	Closed
Zurich	SKA Gen	Closed
London		
	FT-A-Share	911.92 (-3.24)
	FT-100	908.92 (-4.18)
	FT-SE 100	1761.3 (-8.9)
	FT Gold Miners	211.2 (+3.1)
	FT Fixed Interest	98.39 (+0.07)
	FT Govt Secs	90.20 (+0.08)

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MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Body Shop	580p (+40p)
Capital Radio	245p (+18p)
KWR-Fit	130p (+5p)
Cable & Wireless	348p (+10p)
UK Land	827p (+13p)
Kleinwort Benson	382p (+13p)
Laporte	478p (+12p)
Independent	478p (+12p)
Logica	316p (+10p)
HOLLIS	125p (+14p)
JS Packaging	492p (+12p)
N Key	357p (+10p)
Jonas Stroud	180p (+10p)

FALLS

Fluorine	582p (-13p)
Hawker Siddeley	511p (-12p)
Glanville	500p (-10p)
Schroders	550p (-25p)
VG Instruments	335p (-20p)
Surge Holdings	310p (-25p)
Garrard National	282p (-10p)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	7 1/4%
3-month interbank	7 1/4-7 3/4%
3-month eligible bills	7 1/4-7 3/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	5%
Federal Funds	7 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	6.27-6.28%
30-year bonds	9 1/4-9 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£: \$1.8680	£: \$1.8680
DM: 1.8680	DM: 1.8680
FF: 1.8680	FF: 1.8680
Yen: 1.8680	Yen: 1.8680
Index: 1.8680	Index: 1.8680

GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$450.25 PM \$457.25
Close	\$458.50-459.00 (\$245.50-246.00)
New York	Comex \$458.10-459.80

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (June) pm \$16.55 (\$16.75)
Denotes latest trading price

THE TIMES

STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Stockwatch gives instant access to more than 10,000 share, unit trust and bond prices. The information you require is on the following telephone numbers:
● Stock market comment: General market 0898 121220; Company news 0898 121221; Active shares 0898 121225; USM 0898 121250
● Quick check of share prices: Leaders A-K 0898 121240; Leaders L-Z 0898 121241; Popular shares 0898 121277
● Recent issues 0898 121255; foreign exchange 0898 121230. Overseas markets: world markets 0898 121211; Wall Street report 0898 121712
● Details, page 26

Pound nears DM3.20 as growth slows

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The pound continued to climb yesterday, in spite of worries over the trade figures to be published on Friday. Gross domestic product data suggesting a slowdown in the economy helped to temper City fears of overheating.

The pound recovered the levels seen immediately before last week's half-point cut in base rates, highlighting the continuing dilemma on policy for Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor. Dealers believe it could break through DM3.20 ahead of the trade figures.

Sterling was also helped by weekend reports suggesting that the Prime Minister's backing of the Chancellor on exchange rate policy was less than complete.

The reports fitted in with a view in the markets that, with credit growing at a record rate, the authorities will find it difficult to reduce interest rates further.

The pound closed nearly a penny up at DM3.1812, having traded above DM3.18 for much of the day. It gained nearly half a cent to £1.8680 and the sterling index rose by 0.1 of a point to 78.4.

Treasury officials played down suggestions that the Prime Minister was able to provide a ringing endorsement last week of the Chancellor's views on the pound, as expressed in the Budget speech, because she had been

responsible for amending and cutting that part of the speech. The officials said that, while the Prime Minister had been consulted on the speech, a deliberate decision had been taken to keep the section on sterling and monetary policy brief, in an attempt to give greater emphasis to the Chancellor's tax proposals.

The pound's rise produced a slightly easier tone for London money market rates. In New York, an increase from 3 to 3.25 per cent by US Trust in its broker loan rate added to the belief that American interest rates may have further to rise, particularly if Thursday's gross national product figures indicate too much growth and consequent inflationary pressures in the US economy.

Official figures for Britain's first-quarter gross domestic product, based on output data, pointed to a slowdown in activity in the economy. The output measure of GDP grew by just 0.2 per cent in the first quarter, well below the growth rates of 1 per cent in the fourth quarter and 1.9 per cent in the third quarter of last year.

Growth on a year-on-year basis in the first quarter was a strong 4.6 per cent. But this was partly due to a depressed first quarter a year ago, and was below the growth rates of 5.2 per cent in the fourth quarter and 5.1 per cent in the third quarter. Output of the

production industries fell 1 per cent in the first quarter, including a 2.5 per cent drop in energy output, as reported last week.

But services output was strong, up 0.7 per cent in the first quarter, to show a 6.3 per cent rise on a year earlier. The first quarter rise included a 2 per cent increase in distribution activity.

Although the financial markets are keen to detect signs of a slowdown in Britain's growth rate, there is concern that, while output may be entering a phase of slower growth, final demand may continue strong, producing poor trade figures.

Expectations for the trade figures, due on Friday, are that the April current account deficit will widen to £400-500 million, from £254 million in March.

Mr Geoffrey Dennis, an economist at James Capel, said while an exceptionally poor set of trade figures would hit sterling, the pound would be likely to shrug off a deficit in line with the market consensus. "We think there is a very strong chance that the pound will have a shot at DM3.20 this week," he said.

But Dr Paul Chertkow, an economist at Security Pacific Hoare Govett, said it could require only one piece of bad news, possibly on the trade figures, to send the pound falling sharply.

Maxwell abandons an engineering dream

By Joe Joseph

In a rare admission of defeat, Mr Robert Maxwell yesterday said he was abandoning his dream of building a worldwide engineering business alongside his publishing empire and selling the industrial side of Hollis, the engineering and services company controlled by his Pergamon Group.

Citing his failure to win a takeover battle in 1986 for AE, the specialist engine components group, as a watershed, Mr Maxwell said: "I did not have the time to run Maxwell Communication, and also build a global engineering business."

"Our plans to build a substantial science-based engineering business required further acquisitions, of the size of AE, in which we were unsuccessful, in order to create the necessary critical mass."

Hollis is selling its engineering and merchandising divisions

for £105 million to their management in a buyout led by Mr Geoffrey Robinson MP, a non-executive director of Hollis. Hollis is taking £55 million in cash and the balance in shares and loan notes.

It will retain a substantial minority stake in the businesses, which eventually are expected to set up a separate stock market listing. The buyout vehicle will also assume £13.8 million of external debt from the Hollis group.

Mr Maxwell, who will take over the chair at Hollis, said the reorganization had been devised by his son, Kevin, and that the negotiations for the management buyout were finalized yesterday.

Hollis will also be changing its name to Pergamon Professional & Financial Services, a company that will have net assets of £30 million with balance sheet assets of £100 million and an ambition, says

Mr Maxwell, to develop into "a major international business in the high margin field of professional and financial services, with first priority being given to Europe."

Mr Maxwell said PFFS will shortly commence operations throughout Western Europe by establishing offices in Amsterdam, Brussels, Lisbon, Madrid, Munich and Rome, in addition to an office in Paris.

The businesses being sold off - which include Stothert & Pitt, the crane maker, and Ransomes & Rapier, the dragline manufacturer - contributed £115.1 million to Hollis's 1987 turnover of £219.3 million.

Hollis has also agreed, in principle, to sell AH McIntosh, a furniture manufacturer, to its management. It is further weighing up several offers for its remaining industrial businesses.

Flying high with £200m worth of business



Powering ahead: Sir Francis Tombs can reflect on continuing demand for Rolls products

Record order boosts Rolls

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine maker, has carved a near-£200 million slice from the biggest commercial jetliner order in aviation history.

Every current version of Rolls' best-known engine, the RB211, is involved in a deal signed with International Lease Finance Corporation (ILFC), the California-based aircraft leasing company.

ILFC last week announced an order for 123 Boeing aircraft and Airbus to be supplied between 1989 and 1995. The Rolls engines will power Boeing 747, 757 and 767 jetliners.

The order is based on 26 engines being supplied, but ILFC has left considerable flexibility. It wants to be able to mix and match engines for the Rolls-powered aircraft so as to suit the prevailing needs of the leasing market.

The potential value of the deal to Rolls, headed by Sir Francis Tombs, the chairman, is estimated as up to £200 million over the lifetime of the aircraft, taking into account spares and any later improvements.

More than half the aircraft ordered by ILFC will be Boeing 737s for which Rolls does not have an appropriate engine, so the company has taken a good slice of the remaining engine orders against tough competition from Pratt & Whitney and General Electric.

Mr Steven Udvar-Hazy, the ILFC president, said: "The continuing demand by the airlines for Rolls-Royce products through the 1990s was a major factor in our decision to choose the three marks of RB211. All are advanced technology powerplants which we are certain will perform well in the next century."

The three engine versions are the 535E4 of 40,100lb thrust, widely regarded as one of the most reliable turbos in current service, and the larger and more powerful G4 and H versions of the 52 engine.

The 524G, with 58,000lb thrust, has already captured a sizeable share of the 747-400 market. Since its launch in the middle of 1986 this engine has been specified by Cathay Pacific, British Airways, Qantas and Air New Zealand, all important long-distance carriers.

ILFC will be the second customer for the updated 524H with its 60,600lb of thrust.

S Koreans plan £15m oven plant in Britain

By Colin Nairbrough

Lucky Gold-Star, one of South Korea's leading electronics groups, plans to build a £15 million plant in Britain to produce 300,000 microwave ovens a year for British and continental kitchens.

The plant is most likely to be sited in Wales, already a popular location for Japanese firms, the Koreans' arch-rivals in the consumer electronics market.

The Koreans are keen to avoid EEC anti-dumping sanctions by manufacturing within the EEC, and want to get into position ahead of the single European Market to be created by the end of 1992.

Construction work is scheduled to start this year and should be completed early next year.

Gold-Star UK, the electronics sales subsidiary, set up in Britain only nine months ago, yesterday declined to comment on reports from "industrial sources" in Seoul which disclosed details of the oven factory plan.

The plant will be only the second in Britain wholly owned by a South Korean firm. Samsung Electronics, has a plant making colour television sets and electronic ovens in Birmingham.

Gold-Star products already sell through high street electronics retailers in this country, but have to date been imported from factories in other countries.

Gold-Star's world turnover was believed to be about £1.1 billion in 1986, over 70 per cent of which was in the electronics sector.

US company buys 5.3% of Kleinwort

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Kleinwort Benson Lonsdale yesterday emerged as the latest merchant banking group to attract overseas share buying when American International Group, the largest quoted insurance company in the US, announced that it had bought a 5.3 per cent stake.

AIG said that it had built up the stake during the last two months and intended to remain as a long-term, friendly shareholder. KBL's shares, however, jumped 13p to close at 383p, a discount to its net asset value of about 400p a share.

Mr Nigel Webber, a director of Pine Street Investment, the financial subsidiary of AIG which owns the shares, said that KBL was a good investment because its stock was undervalued by the market. He said: "KBL has had some well publicized problems, but it has recently changed its management. AIG is prepared to let its investments develop and then see over time if they want to buy control."

He said KBL's particular strengths were its corporate finance division, the Kleinwort Grieson Securities broking arm and the British banking operation.

Mr Webber added that AIG were very long-term investors. There was no question at this stage of a bid for KBL.

Consortium in Harris talks

By Lawrence Lever

A consortium represented by Charterhouse Bank is negotiating with Harris Queensway on the possibility of making an agreed takeover bid for the ailing furniture, carpets and home furnishings group.

Harris's shares, which went ex a 4p dividend yesterday, closed at 148p - 3p up on the day.

Charterhouse declined to comment. The bank's clients include Woolworth and the Mountleigh property group, but neither is believed to be interested in bidding. Nor is Charterhouse's expertise in

arranging large scale management buyouts being deployed.

Mr David Reed of County Bank, adviser to Harris, said the potential offer was not fully leveraged and yesterday's statement had been in response to many inquiries for further enlightenment.

Analysis said that the reference to a leveraged offer suggested a break up of the company which incorporates the Queensway furniture, Times Furnishing, Harris Carpets and Carpetland, and Poundstretcher chains.

THE court case looms over hotel's 99th annual meeting

Savoy battle moves towards a climax

By Cliff Feltham

Shareholders attending today's 99th annual meeting of the Savoy Hotel group are likely to wonder if it will be the last occasion of its kind. Among those present will be representatives of Trusthouse Forte, who are determined to ensure that it is.

All the signs are that the long battle by Trusthouse Forte for control of the Savoy is reaching its climax. The years of skirmishes and rancour have given way to a highly organized campaign by Trusthouse Forte to snatch the richest hotel prize left in London.

As the annual locking of horns between the two sides was about to take place there was even the customary blip in the "A" shares of Savoy - up 102p to £11.25p on the stock market yesterday.

Trusthouse Forte directly owns 69 per cent of the Savoy share capital, but because of the two-tier share structure it speaks for only 42 per cent of the votes. Now Trusthouse Forte has launched a legal battle to cancel a 5.8 per cent block

of the voting shares in the Savoy group owned by a Swiss charity. The removal of the stake would leave the Savoy directors with 44 per cent of the votes, just two per cent more than Trusthouse Forte.

The hearing is fixed for the end of the summer, but before then the Savoy is expected to hold an extraordinary meeting of its shareholders which is likely to consider a resolution condemning Trusthouse Forte for acting out of its own interests rather than for the overall benefit of the company.

Mr Giles Shepard, the managing director of the Savoy, who has done so much to improve its trading position, said he hoped the meeting would not become "bogged down in legal matters".

He added: "I expect we will announce that an agreement will be reached later in the year, and a circular explaining what will be required will be sent out at the right time."

Trusthouse is most likely to keep its legal powder dry until hostilities commence in the courts, and will probably

concentrate on points in the report and accounts. It could also include a side-swing at Savoy's trading prospects. Trusthouse claims the gap between its own performance and the Savoy's is widening, arguing that its own UK hotels increased earnings by 27 per cent, against 18 per cent by the Savoy.

The Savoy's profits last year were a record £14.2 million, but Mr Shepard has frozen prices in preparation for what could be a difficult trading year. The fall in the value of the dollar threatens Savoy's traditional US market while Americans are also likely to stay at home during the run-up to the election in November.

Lord Forte is not recognised as a sentimentalist, but he would dearly love to succeed in his goal of acquiring the Savoy in its centenary year.

Sir Hugh Wootton, aged 79, the former chairman of the Savoy, who has fought to keep it out of Lord Forte's hands, retires today. He leaves behind a board resolute in preserving that independence.

DIAMOND SERVICE

GUESS WHO'S FIRST INTO AMSTERDAM?

It's not British Airways. Not even KLM. Only British Midland can fly you into Amsterdam by 9.00am - and put you on the last flight out.

In fact British Midland have more weekday flights between Heathrow and Amsterdam than any other airline. Which means our schedule will fit your schedule.

And every British Midland flight to Amsterdam is Diamond Service. Which means you get the full Business Class treatment.

If you fly to Amsterdam, you know which airline means business.

HEATHROW - AMSTERDAM - AMSTERDAM - HEATHROW				
0700	0900	0730	0730	
0815	1015	0830	0830	
1100	1300	1130	1130	
1215	1415	1230	1230	
1415	1615	1430	1430	
1615	1815	1630	1630	
1815	2015	1830	1830	
2015	2215	2100	2100	

THE MOST WEEKDAY FLIGHTS BETWEEN HEATHROW AND AMSTERDAM.

BRITISH MIDLAND

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Gold Greenlees Trott moves into US

Gold Greenlees Trott, the advertising agency, has made its promised first move into the United States with the purchase of Babbitt & Reiman, an agency based in Atlanta, Georgia, for an initial \$2.35 million (£1.26 million). A further \$1.2 million is payable, depending on profits over the next two years, and there will be future profit-related incentive payments.

GGT is still looking in the United States, and plans to build a nationwide network based around four or five regional agencies, said Mr Matthew Allen, the company's finance director.

JS Pathology advances

JS Pathology, a Harley Street clinical pathology laboratory which tests new drugs for pharmaceutical companies, lifted pretax profits by one third to £4.01 million in the year to March 31. The share price last year received a boost from increased AIDS-related work. A final dividend of 3.7p makes 5.5p in all.

Watmoughs raises £10m

Watmoughs (Holdings), the printer and publisher, is raising £10 million by the issue of 10 million cumulative redeemable preference shares to be placed with institutional shareholders to fund expansion. The move offers the chance to make some acquisitions, said Mr James Newman, the finance director.

Acis marketing buy

Acis Group, the former Acis Jewellery now being built up by Mr Darryl Phillips, the South African entrepreneur, is buying United Media, which sells advertising space on theatre ticket wallets and hotel key cards, for an initial £100,000.

The acquisition will be integrated with the Ingleby Group, a marketing company which was bought by Acis for £11.5 million in February. United has a two-year contract with 140 theatres and hotels in Britain and brings the total held by Ingleby to more than 550. It plans to expand into other forms of media advertising, including seat plan guides. A further consideration of up to £200,000 is payable, depending on profits for the financial year to end-March 1989.

First Leisure in £50m issue

First Leisure Corporation, the amusement parks, theatres and dance halls group, has launched a £50 million sterling commercial paper programme, with dealings expected to start in June. Mr Nick Irens, the finance director, said that this would provide an alternative to the existing unsecured borrowing facilities.

Frank Gates lifts payout

Frank G. Gates, the Essex-based Ford main dealer, is lifting its dividend from 3.2p to 4.25p a share after pretax profits rose from £1.37 million to £1.9 million in 1987. Earnings per share have risen from 9.06p to 11.10p. It is the first time since 1979 that the company has made a real net profit on the assets employed on new vehicles.

RATNERS GROUP plc

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1948 No. 477922)
Open offer of up to 36,085,000 new 6.25p convertible cumulative non-voting redeemable shares 2008 of 20p each ("new convertible preference shares") at £1 per share

Permission has been granted (subject to allotment) by the Council of The Stock Exchange for the admission of the new convertible preference shares to the Official List. Full particulars of the new convertible preference shares are available in the Extra Statistical Services. Copies of the listing particulars and the supplementary listing particulars may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 26th May 1988 from the Company Announcements Office, The Stock Exchange, 48 Finsbury Square, London EC2P 2BT and up to and including 7th June 1988 from Ratners Group, 26 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6HN.

Morgan Grenfell & Co Limited
23 Great Winchester Street, London EC2P 2AX
County NatWest Wood Mackenzie
12 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2P 2ES
Cazenove & Co.,
12 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN
Dated 24th May 1988

Time for strong action by AB Foods

The market's patience with Associated British Foods is running out. The abortive bid for S&W Berisford last year whetted investors' appetites. But unless ABF is waiting to bid again in November, there is no excuse for not spending some of the billion pound cash mountain on something else.

Considering the maturity of the markets in which ABF operates, the 12 per cent operating profit growth to £134 million is reasonable. But the core bakery business is facing increasingly competitive forces.

The advent of bakeries in new supermarkets is eating away at independents' positions. Overcapacity has forced rationalization upon an industry where margins are already under pressure. ABF took £8 million above the line last year.

The pretax figures were also depressed by £3 million from currency movements.

The current year will be overhung by the effects of a poor grain harvest, although a continued capital investment programme - worth £125 million last year - should begin to bear fruit. Earnings growth of 10 per cent is in prospect, putting the shares on a p/e of 8.3 times. Many believe caution is a more admirable quality than recklessness, but in business it is

hard to reap rewards if risks are never taken.

The Berisford bid showed ABF it could even make contested acquisitions, but the eleventh hour withdrawal suggested ABF's heart was not in it.

If the business is really being run for the longer term, the ups and downs of the stock market should not have acted as a deterrent.

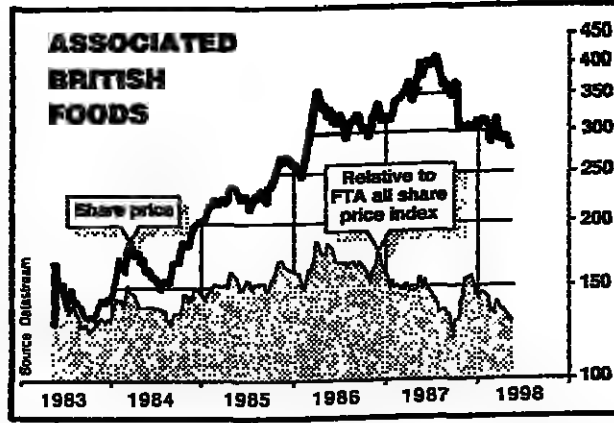
The Berisford experience has sharpened ABF up and several acquisitions are under consideration. But whether the group has the guts to clinch a deal is another matter.

Meanwhile, raising nearly £150 million in 1986 to reduce the family-linked share holding added insult to injury. Especially since this supposed earnings growth last year.

If the company cannot decide where to invest the money, it should distribute it to shareholders and allow them to decide. Budget changes make this practical. Against this background, there is little to commend the shares.

Nestlé

Rowntree's shareholders can be thankful that Nestlé, the Swiss group, is offering good, old-fashioned cash for their shares - and not chocolate



bars, which melt. Or Nestlé shares, the investment worth of which can only be properly measured once a year.

In a traditional, Swiss-style of secrecy, Nestlé does not believe in issuing interim reports, preferring to devote as much attention as possible to running its business. Its shares are, therefore, not listed in London or in the United States.

There is, however, a reasonable British following of the group through the bearer shares - daily dealings are possible - and Nestlé is quoted on various European stock exchanges.

The share price is currently 8.080 Swiss francs (£30.56). Pre-October Nestlé shares found a high of 11,450 francs

and, post-crash, moved down to 7,350 francs.

The dividend yield is a meagre 1.8 per cent, the historic price/earnings ratio 15.6 and the prospective ratio 14.7.

British Airways

Can it be that the world's favourite airline is being blown a little off course? Heavy hints that British Caledonian could have made fourth-quarter losses of as much as £40 million have all the hallmarks of an attempt to soften up the market ahead of worse than expected results.

And British Airways may indeed have less to congratulate itself about than usual when it unveils its preliminary results to March 31 today, despite a good year for its key scheduled airline business.

BA's scheduled available capacity rose last year about 9 per cent to 9,700 available tonnes kilometres. Its load factor probably fell slightly from an unsustainably high 69 per cent to one still high at 68 per cent, and a 1 per cent move in load factor shifts

operating profits by £40 million.

Most difficult to assess is what the group's average yield was last year. This is a measure of how successful the airline was at generating revenue from its available capacity, and depends on such factors as the extent of fare discounting, the mix of business, tourist and cargo traffic and currency fluctuations.

Yields have been declining in recent years, but the decline may have slowed this year. Sterling is still strong, but news for yields. But fares on some routes have been increasing, and BA has been successful in increasing its share of business passengers, both good for yields.

But it is the current financial year, 1988-89, that BA may be worrying about. Airline capacity worldwide and unit costs are both rising, and if demand fails to keep pace, fares will come down as carriers try to fill their planes. If BA reports 1987-88 profits of about £240 million, the mid-range 1988-89 estimate from Mr Ian Wild, BZW's transport analyst, is a drop to £200 million.

BA's share price is protected by the 6.2 per cent yield. But clearly there will be turbulence ahead, and investors should put out their cigarettes and fasten their seat belts.

IMF urges US to speed deficit cut

Washington (Reuters) - M Michel Camdessus, the managing director of the International Monetary Fund, said yesterday that the United States should institute a more ambitious budget deficit reduction programme, as it would lead to a cut in global interest rates.

Speaking to a business group in Queensland, Australia, M Camdessus also made it clear that the world's economies should not lower their guard against a resurgence of inflation, as industrial countries enter a sixth year of economic recovery.

He said a considerably more ambitious approach to fiscal policy in the United States "would not only lower the risk

of undue pressure on resources, but would permit the required improvement in net exports to occur without crowding out domestic private spending."

M Camdessus said that two main problems faced the global economic system, and neither would be easily solved.

First, a way must be found to reduce the trade and financial imbalances between the US, which labours under a big deficit, and Japan and West Germany, which have large surpluses.

The second challenge was to "revitalize activity in the developing world, and enable more countries to grow out of their debt-servicing burdens."

\$12m deal for Vickers

The purchase represents a move into manufacturing in the US for Howson, which has so far only had a sales and distribution network there.

It also gives Vickers access to the newspaper clients of Imperial, which include the New York Times, Washington Post and Newsday.

Imperial has plants in Philadelphia and in Holyoke, Massachusetts, besides a sales operation in Ontario, Canada.

Texaco set to make pact with Icahn

New York (Reuters) - Texaco Inc and its largest shareholder, Mr Carl Icahn, are close to an agreement that would end months of wrangling over the company's restructuring and Mr Icahn's fight to gain control of the oil company.

Under the agreement, sources say Mr Icahn would drop his proxy fight to gain control of five seats on Texaco's 14-member board.

The company, meanwhile, would drop its civil lawsuit charging the New York investor with violating federal securities laws in his battle with Texaco.

The deal would also allow Texaco management to proceed at its discretion with a previously announced restructuring plan, under which it would sell \$5 billion (£2.7 billion) in assets.

Mr Icahn, who holds 14.8 per cent of Texaco's stock, most of which he acquired last year, has been seeking to hasten the company's restructuring.

He has complained that Texaco's stock is undervalued and that management has not done enough to boost its price. Sources say Mr Icahn became willing to drop the proxy fight after becoming convinced that Texaco management was serious about proceeding with the restructuring.

It was not immediately clear if any final pact would include an agreement prohibiting Mr Icahn from increasing his Texaco stake. But the understanding was that he would become a more passive shareholder and not strive to influence Texaco's restructuring.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	
ASB Bennett	167 +1
Acra Oil	147
Carbo	142
Clinton Cards (160p)	142
Conroy Pet	57 -1
Dagenham Motors	111 -2
Dudley Jenkins (85p)	101
Gardner (D)	151
Govett Amer	98
Johnston (122p)	139 +1
Kelly Little (80p)	111
LGW	50 -2
Mercantile Mart	73 -1
Morris Ashby (90p)	85 -3
PEP (175p)	180 +1
Paga (Michael)	55
Pennant	50
Permag	52
Porvair (78p)	93
Reliable Props	218 +1/2
Roole	116
Sanderson Elec	139
Sarco Gp (230p)	235
Shant Gp	24 -1
Softbank A	955 +5
TGI (130p)	132
Texas Intl	223 +1/2
UK Paper (135p)	137
Victrola (235p)	250
Wardell Rob	53

RIGHTS ISSUES	
Eadie Hodge N/P	1 1/2
Kelt Energy N/P	49 +1
Lincoln N/P	8
Pineapple N/P	1 1/2 +1/4
Saenro N/P	15
Trencherwood N/P	37 -3
Tilton N/P	1 1/2 +1/2
Westbury N/P	12 1/2

(Issue price in brackets).

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	7.50%
Adam & Company	7.50%
BCI	7.50%
Consolidated Cys	7.50%
Co-operative Bank	7.50%
C. Hoare & Co	7.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	7.50%
Lloyds Bank	7.50%
Nat Westminster	7.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	7.50%
TSB	7.50%
Citibank NA	7.50%

Former panel chief will join Glaxo

By Colin Campbell

Mr John Hignett, a former director-general of the Takeover Panel and currently a managing director at Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, is joining Glaxo Holdings as finance director.

He takes up his appointment on August 1 and succeeds Mr Charles Newcomb who retires from Glaxo on July 31.

Mr Hignett, aged 54, joined Lazard Brothers in 1963 and was appointed head of the

Bright outlook for British car market

After a second successive year of new car registrations above 2 million in 1988, demand in Britain is forecast to fall next year as a result of a slowdown in consumer credit.

However, in its world automotive forecast, DRI, the research group, predicts the British car market will then recover to more than 2 million for the following three years.

In an optimistic forecast for the British market, DRI predicts that car production will rise from its 1987 level of 1.14 million to 1.4 million by 1991 as imports fall steadily to below 1 million.

£2,000 worth of unit trusts to be won

Can you identify the businessman from the photographic clue? If not, ring 0898-141-400, where you will hear our mystery guest talking about his company. Identify him and four other businessmen this week and £2,000 worth of unit trusts could be yours.

Our Stockwatch competition, with £50,000 worth of unit trusts from Equitable Life as prizes, is now in its sixth week.

Equitable Life has an excellent reputation and a long history of sound investment and good returns.

Playing Stockwatch is simple. It involves making a single telephone call each day, Monday to Friday.

Each day we will publish a new picture, and when you call 0898-141-400, you will hear a different voice, five each week. The recording will change at 4am each day.

You can play right now (or at any time, day or night) by picking up your telephone and calling 0898-141-400, the Stockwatch competition number.

The mystery guest will make a brief statement about his company which will provide a further clue to his identity.

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Bass Public Limited Company

EXTRACTS FROM COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN - IAN PROSSER

Profit before tax increased by 33.6% after crediting an exceptional profit of £28.2m arising from the sale of certain European hotels.

The strength of our beer brand portfolio enabled us to increase volumes well ahead of a buoyant market. The performances of Britvic Corona in the soft drinks market and Hedges & Butler in wines and spirits were encouraging.

Our considerable investment in pub retailing and the extension of our catering businesses led by Toby Restaurants continued to produce good results. Changes in licensing hours will present an opportunity for future growth in this sector.

Our leisure activities continue to show good growth with notable performances coming from amusement machine manufacture, social clubs and hotels. Horizon winter holiday sales were substantially above last year.

The acquisition of the international assets of Holiday Corporation outside the United States of America, Canada and Mexico, together with 13 Holiday Inns in the U.S.A., which has been completed since the end of the half-year, significantly expands our hotel business and confirms our commitment to become a major international hotel operator.

INTERIM RESULTS TO 9th APRIL 1988

- key figures (unaudited)

	26 weeks to 9.4.88	26 weeks to 11.4.87	53 weeks to 30.9.87
	£m	£m	£m
Turnover			
Brewing, drinks and pub retailing	1,249.0	1,133.0	2,238.1
Leisure	535.3	387.3	985.3
	1,784.3	1,513.3	3,213.4
Trading Profit			
Analysed:			
Brewing, drinks and pub retailing	188.9	133.7	303.3
operations			
- surplus on disposal of fixed assets	7.0	165.9	8.4
	195.9	299.6	311.7
Leisure:			
operations	15.8	15.4	67.8
- surplus on disposal of fixed assets (Note)	28.3	44.1	0.4
	44.1	59.5	68.2
	240.0	359.1	380.0
Profit before taxation	197.0	147.4	365.0
Ordinary dividends paid and proposed - per share	5.4p	4.8p	19.55p
Earnings per ordinary share	38.4p	30.2p	71.6p

Note: The surplus on disposal of fixed assets includes £28.2m in respect of the sale of certain continental hotels.

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Bell Group shake-up may mean £350m British sale

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Equity and property holdings in Britain worth more than £350 million are likely to be put up for sale soon as a result of the shake-up at Bell Group, the Australian conglomerate.

Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur now in control of 20 per cent of Bell Group and 43 per cent of Bell Resources, the main subsidiary, is expected to quicken the pace of divestment.

Bell has already made substantial divestments in Britain, including the sale of its British headquarters at Cumberland Place for a profit of some £35 million (£15 million).

Reorganization of the rest of Bell's British property hold-

ings, worth more than £350 million, is most likely to come next. According to calculations by Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the securities company, this could yield a profit of more than £380 million.

Bell's 100 per cent ownership of ACC, the communications and entertainments company, is also expected to go on sale. BZW calculates the book value of ACC at £175 million, although there are few indications of who potential buyers might be. Experts are not ruling out the separate sale of ACC's valuable portfolio of theatres around the country.

Bell still holds 14.9 per cent

of Standard Chartered, the London-based international bank. The shares are entered on Bell's books at 450p each, valuing the holding at about £360 million.

Although Standard shares were standing yesterday at 440p, Bell may be able to sell the stake at well over £5 a share to a bidder interested in acquiring such a large holding in a British bank. Bell almost certainly wants to sell the stake before Standard's anticipated £300 million rights issue this autumn.

The Bank of England is certain to monitor the sale closely, although the holding is technically below the 15 per cent level at which the Bank

can block an unwelcome purchaser. Since Mr Robert Holmes & Co. no longer controls Bell he is expected to step down as deputy chairman of Standard in the near future.

Bell's 31 per cent holding in Dewey Warren, the insurance broking company, is worth about £41 million. Dewey was used as the vehicle for various corporate deals by Bell under Mr Holmes & Co's control last year, including the purchase of 5 per cent of Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank that was regarded not long ago as a prime bid target.

Dewey continues to hold the Morgan shares.

Chevron bought out at Amax

By Colin Campbell

Amax, the diversified North American natural resources group, has paid \$349 million (£187 million) or \$23 a share - for 15.2 million of its own shares held by Chevron Corporation, ending an uneasy relationship dating from 1975.

Chevron, one of the world's biggest oil companies, has for many years been Amax's largest individual shareholder, and in 1981 bid \$78.5 a share, or \$4 billion, for all of Amax.

Amax fought off the bid, and in the years that followed its board was persistently criticized by shareholders for having turned down what was then seen as a generous deal.

Falling metal prices and the impact of interest and other factors saw Amax fall on hard times, and its share price consistently fell. The shares, which in 1981 were traded at \$65.5 each, slumped to \$11 in 1986. They now trade at about \$19.5.

In a management shake-up in January 1986, Mr Allen Born was appointed chief executive, since when there has been an extensive restructuring.

Mr Born said yesterday that he regretted the ending of the "constructive relationship", but Chevron had for some time been reconsidering its holding in Amax.

Amax says the share purchase will not dilute earnings. It forecasts net income of about \$4 a share this year, and \$4.25 with the purchase of the Chevron stake.

Holmes deals start to pay

By Colin Campbell



Confident outlook: John Holmes (seated) and Emrys Jones, financial director, yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trivier)

Holmes & Marchant, the specialist communications and marketing group, is raising its interim dividend 40 per cent, in line with the growth in its interim net earnings, and is confident of continuing success for the rest of the year.

Pretax profit for the period ended March 31 was £1.91 million, compared with £1.37 million, on turnover that rose from £8.82 million to £12.28 million. The interim dividend rises from 1.75p to 2.45p a share.

The group made three acquisitions in the period, paid for by a mixture of cash and shares, and remains on the lookout for further deals. Mr John Holmes, the chief executive, said yesterday.

The recent deals were responsible for profits of £90,000 in the six months ended March, but are expected to make a greater contribution as they are fully integrated into the group.

Holmes & Marchant was floated on the LSE in 1985, and moved to a full listing the following year. Since coming to the market, it has acquired six design and public relations companies for up to £23 million.

Mr Holmes added that the group would continue to concentrate on business opportunities in Britain, where activity was buoyant, and that deals in the United States could be expected in time.

"There is lots of business around," Mr Holmes added.

The shares rose 4p to 272p.

Tunstall profits up to £3.2m

Tunstall Group, the former Tunstall Telecom and maker of emergency communications equipment and burglar alarms, raised pretax profits 16 per cent to £3.2 million in the six months to end-March.

The half-time dividend is increased to 1.5p, from 1p.

Mr Michael Dawson, chairman, said the group is holding talks with Sound Diffusion, the radio paging company in which it has a 4.9 per cent stake, for a merger.

Double buy for Cookson

Cookson Group, the metals and chemicals manufacturer, has bought Congleton Plastic Company, a Cheshire-based maker of plastics flower pots and other horticultural accessories, for an undisclosed, six-figure sum.

It is also buying the graphic products division of Coates Brothers, the printing ink manufacturer, for an undisclosed sum.

Unilever deal

Unilever is moving into margarine manufacture in New Zealand, with an agreed purchase by Unilever New Zealand of the shares of Abels from Nabisco Brands for an undisclosed price.

Radio City up

Radio City (Sound of Merseyside), the USM-quoted Liverpool radio station, raised pretax profits for the six months to end-March to £308,000 from £72,000 last time.

Wheway rise

Wheway, the engineering group, has lifted pretax profits in the six months to April 2 from £751,000 to £1.92 million. The dividend rises from 0.375p to 0.5p.

GEC purchase

Videojet Systems International, GEC's US subsidiary, has bought Cheshire, the Xerox Corporation subsidiary for \$21 million.

Moody link

Henry Ansbacher Holdings, the merchant banking group, and WS Moody, an unlisted insurance broker, have agreed to merge. Their insurance broking interests with Moody paying a consideration in the form of a share issue.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Questionable logic or just plain nonsense

Two misconceptions are being put about Nestlé's bid for Rowntree. The first is that Nestlé had to act because Suchard mounted a dawn raid. It did not. The second is that the idea of allowing UK companies to join together to form worldwide entities is a notion which has suddenly been thrust upon the Government by the approach of the single market of 1992. It is not.

Let us deal first with Nestlé. By its own admission, it is a novice in the game of contested takeovers, preferring to talk its way into other people's boardrooms rather than battering down doors and storming the boardroom table. The managing director of Nestlé, Helmut Maucher has said on a number of occasions, most recently in *The Times* last Friday in his exclusive article, that "Jacobs Suchard's pre-emptive action in building up a stake in Rowntree created a situation where we had to act".

Even the most junior corporate finance executive in County Natwest,

let alone Peter St George who is advising Nestlé, would know that is highly questionable logic, or just plain daft. Suchard, by virtue of its dawn raid and its subsequent statements, was locked out of Rowntree. It could not bid and it could not buy more shares. Its hands were tied, and Nestlé could have spent an entire year trying to persuade an increasingly desperate Rowntree that a liaison with Nestlé would be better than an ultimate takeover by Suchard. By making his bid, Herr Maucher untied Suchard's hands. Perhaps St George is for England after all.

By bidding when it did, when the market was already excited and the share price rising, Nestlé may have made success more difficult. It certainly made success more expensive, and made itself into Rowntree's adversary rather than a potential ally.

Herr Maucher complained of "non-sense" being spoken about reciprocity. He is in a strong position to recognise it.

The Hignett factor at Glaxo

Now for a misconception Number Two. The idea that British companies need to get together to compete on the world stage is not new, and has only a passing relevance to 1992. Nearly two decades ago, Beecham Group made a contested takeover bid for Glaxo.

The idea was to put the marketing skills of Beecham behind the research excellence of Glaxo. The Monopolies Commission barred the bid and also Glaxo's proposed defensive merger with Boots.

Had Beecham acquired Glaxo, Britain might now have a pharmaceutical company ranking first or second in the world league. Had Glaxo merged with Boots, it might have sunk without trace. In the event, Glaxo, still independent, ranks Number Four.

John Hignett worked on Glaxo's defence and now, 18 years later, is leaving his corporate finance empire at Lazard Bros to become finance director of Glaxo.

He is not going there simply to count the profits from Zantac or to mastermind the hedging of Glaxo's dollar income. Nor is he going there to coast to retirement in the comfort of a big corporation office.

Glaxo is accumulating cash at a phenomenal rate, and the best way it can use that cash is to make acquisitions.

It does have ambitions to become one of the major Euro-corporations which, if Lord Young has his way, will litter the Continent over the next few years (whether they are to be British owned or foreign owned is a matter which will be clearer later this week when his lordship makes his decision on Rowntree). Glaxo is keen to build on its undoubted success, and move up a notch or two in the world league.

Unfortunately, we will be no nearer knowing whether the home market or the world market matters most in the public interest even after the Rowntree decision. What would provide the answer would be a Cadbury/Rowntree merger proposal, although it has to be pointed out that the Cadbury share price could not survive such a proposal without serious damage.

But if the world market, or even the European market, is to be the yardstick by which mergers are to be judged, then not only a Glaxo/Beecham tie-up might still be a runner. GEC could at last get alongside Plessey. And maybe even Barclays could bid again for Lloyds.

Harmonized EEC tax 'good for business'

By Colin Narbrough

The European Commission's proposals for harmonizing taxes in the drive to create a genuinely Common Market by the end of 1992 should be good for business, Dr Andrew Sentance, the head of Economic Policy and Trends at the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday.

His positive reading of Brussels' plan for two community-wide VAT bands contrasts with the Government's firm rejection of the idea. The commission claims that if the present, varying, VAT rates are left in place they will distort trade, forcing some countries to retain border controls.

Dr Sentance said the proposals submitted by Lord Cockfield, the commission's vice-president, should reinforce the way the tax burden had shifted over the last decade. Indirect taxes had accounted for a greater share of revenue, he said, while the balance had moved from excises towards VAT. He anticipated that the VAT take would rise further if the EEC proposals were put into effect.

Rising car sales give a boost to Hartwell

By Martin Walker

Hartwell, the car dealer and fuel oil distributor with substantial property interests, raised pretax profits to £9.74 million in the year to end-February from £8.12 million last time, boosted by rising car sales.

The increase was despite a 17 per cent fall in the contribution to profits from the heating services division, after lower demand for bulk fuel oil. This was counteracted to some extent by rising earnings from the division's ancillary activities.

Total group sales rose 22 per cent to £332.61 million. A final dividend of 1.94p increases the total to 2.69p from 2.25p.

Sales of new cars rose 18 per cent to 25,834, while used car sales increased by almost 15 per cent to 13,648.

Total rents received from the fast-expanding property side more than doubled to £1.3 million, although profits in the current financial year will be affected by the cost of developing a 64,000 sq ft supermarket for J Sainsbury at Kidlington, Oxfordshire.

Trust in the future

Such is the pulling power of the Prince of Wales that BAT's deputy chairman Gerald Dennis will be turning his back on the bid battle for Farmers today, and Anthony Everett will be taking a break from the flotation plans for Guinness Mahon. The pair will, I hear, be among 120 chief executives who will be following the Prince up to Liverpool for the official opening of the Tate. But their interest in the occasion has little to do with modern art. Along with the likes of Sir Mark Weinberg, of Allied Dunbar, Michael Angus of Unilever, Jim Hopkinson of B&Q and Bob Reid of Shell, they will instead be touring an exhibition staged by 200 young entrepreneurs, aged between 18 and 25, and all of them fostered by the Prince's Youth Business Trust. The exhibition, was, I am told, the Prince's own idea, to show off their products and services to the world. The business dignitaries, all of whom have given financial support to the Trust, will then adjourn to a nearby restaurant - with the Prince - for a buffet lunch. And a grand lunch it will be. Featuring stuffed pike and lobster it will be based on a menu served to the Prince's great-great-grandfather, Prince Albert, the Prince Consort, when he too went to Albert Dock, to open it in 1846. The analogy has thrown up a curious similarity between the two royals. Press reports at the time reveal the Prince Consort's great interest in architecture and just before

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Pie-eyed at the finish

Residents of Teddington, London, may have noticed an over-excited Victor MacColl among the spectators at the annual pub-crawling charity pram race on Sunday. For drinks guru MacColl, of Kleinwort Greaveson, accompanied by his children Katie and James, has, I can reveal, a declared interest in the team that won. Beating all previous records - it completed the 1 1/4 mile race, with 10 compulsory stops for refreshment, in 13 minutes and 48 seconds - the winning team had been fielded by Pyrepeppers, a local wine bar, in which MacColl has a minority stake. "Their pram was in the shape of a pie with a knife and fork on top - I think even Seb Coe would have had problems heating them," a proud MacColl tells me.

Line of credit

Lloyds Bank has changed its advertising slogan. It introduced the line "A thoroughbred among banks" - superimposed on the television screen as a black horse galloped past in slow motion - in 1985. But now it has decided that this is not good enough. After intense market research, which included members of the public having a series of slogans chanted at them, and the expenditure of many thousands of pounds, a crucial modification of the line has been agreed. Lloyds' advertisement now carries the motto... wait for it... "A Thoroughbred Bank".

● A company director found an unsigned note enclosed with his latest income tax return forms. It read: "Mistresses are deductible, but wives are deductible."

"Morning, luv - there's been a French takeover down at the water works"

Carol Leonard

£50m plan by Leading Leisure

By Michael Tate

Mr Barry Malizia's Leading Leisure group has submitted plans for a £50 million marina-style village at Gosport in Hampshire.

The development, which envisages a picturesque harbour with 500 moorings stretching into the centre of the town, will include a village of 298 houses, shops, a public house, a new lake, quay and a clubhouse.

The proposed site is the stretch of Portsmouth Harbour known as Haslar Lake. "Our plan is to bring a harbour right into the centre of our town," said a spokesman for Leading Leisure.

News of the plan comes less than a week after Leading Leisure, which is quoted on the Third Market, unveiled a clutch of three acquisitions.

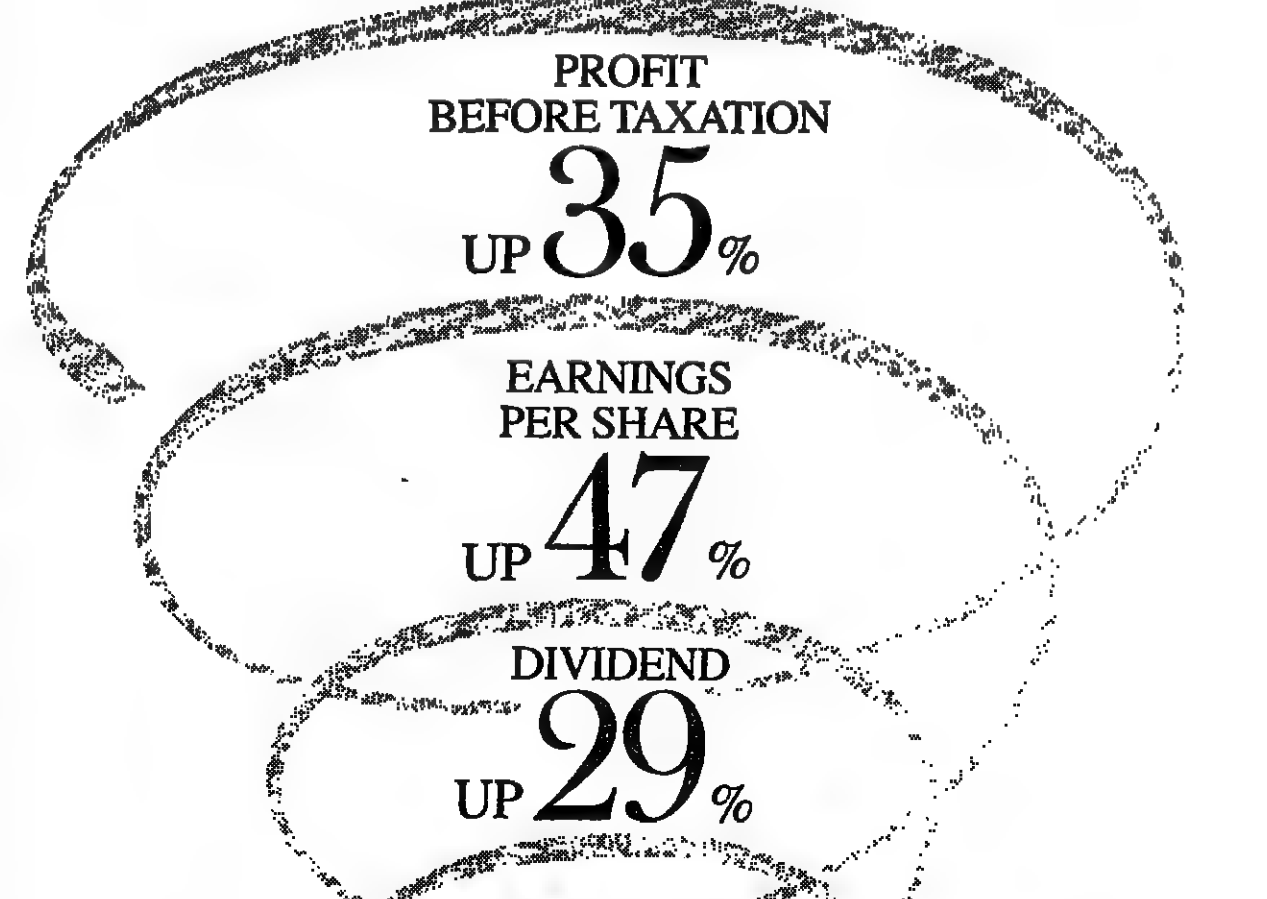
The three purchases include Birmingham's Faces nightclub; the Carnoustie gold clubhouse and hotel site, and the lakeside holiday centre on the Isle of Wight for a total of £1.75 million.

Insurance rise on Aids fears

Legal & General is increasing the rates for its term assurance because of the impact of Aids.

A man aged 29 and taking out a £100,000 level term assurance policy to run for 10 years could see premiums leap by nearly two and a half times from £9 a month to £22.

The Inchcape Spiral



1987 Financial Highlights		
	1987 £m	1986 £m
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	116.2	86.1
Earnings for ordinary shareholders	63.1	42.7
Earnings per ordinary share	73.7p	50.2p
Dividends per ordinary share (net)	27.0p	21.0p

"The Group's significant strengths are spearheaded by our UK and Far East operations, with notable support from Europe and South East Asia.

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Inchcape

THE INTERNATIONAL SERVICES AND MARKETING GROUP

The prices in this section refer to Friday's trading

[illegible]

هذه امة الاصل

STOCK MARKET

Cable and Wireless jumps on broker's advice to buy

● **Chicago** — Envirodyne Industries reported that it will retain Morgan Stanley to assist in evaluating long-term corporate strategy.

Elsewhere, the rest of the equity market made an agonisingly slow start to the

ALPHA STOCKS

[illegible]

Kleinwort has finally agreed to sell a 24.9 per cent holding in its US primary government bond dealer to Fuji Bank for just above £21 million.

Commercial Union, the perennial takeover favourite, sprang to life in the late dealings and closed 3p higher at 360p.

Geoffrey Foster

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
May 16	May 27	August 11	August 22

Call options were taken out on 23/5/88 Red International, Cantoway, Concorde, Inoco, Over Resources, Centway Industries, Highland Distillers, I.C.S.E. B Phos, Stormgard, Hanson, Corporation Estates, Carries Cape & Leonard, Johnson Matthey, Kelt Engineering, Amber Day, Siam, Rolfs-Royce, J Westco.

Rates: Seaford, Barclays, Timpan.

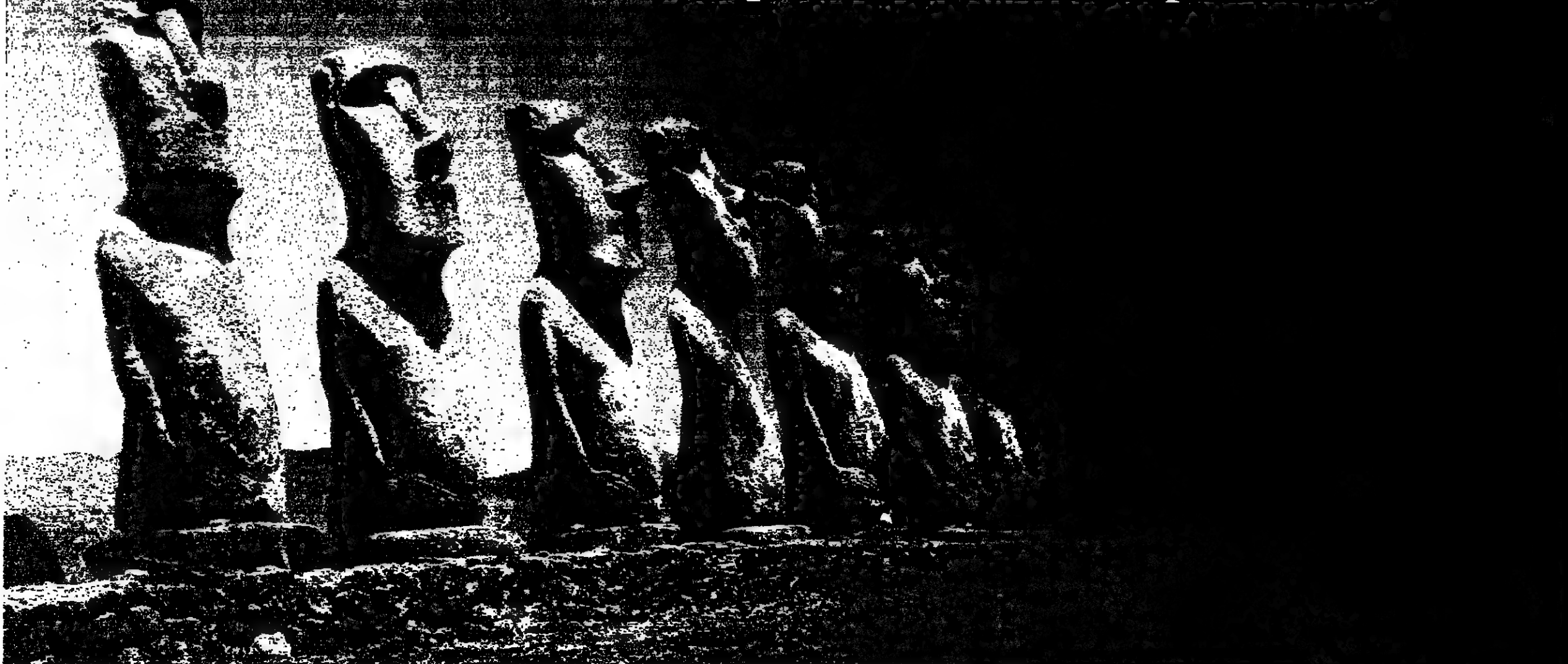
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LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

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هبة امه الاصل

The city crafts a new economy

Local politicians and businessmen are learning that mutual trust is essential if the traumas of recession are to be overcome, says Malcolm Brown. Together, they are reporting on their progress to a wider audience at the Mansion House in London today

Sheffield's employment rate has just dipped below 14 per cent, the first time it has done so since June 1984. It is a sign of the changing times and attitudes in the city that today there is debate over how much of that improvement is due to national trends and how much to Sheffield's own efforts.

The city has been a Labour stronghold for 60 years or more and for a long time after the traumas of the recession, when the steel industry went into a nosedive and left the city with long queues of unemployed people, local politicians and businessmen were distrusting, even abusive.

Now they seem to be learning to live together and the results are starting to feed through into the city and perhaps into the employment figures.

Clive Betts, the council leader, can pinpoint almost to the day his own private realization that a radical new kind of relationship had to be worked out between the council and industry. It was when on a civic delegation to China in 1983 he had to share a car for several days with the then new chief executive of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce, John Hambridge, and

all change the climate and start creating an atmosphere in which a future with possibilities was there, and second, to identify certain key projects on which perhaps the local authority could work with the private sector and those would act as stimulants to general economic development.

Having buried the hatchet, the council and the local business community are looking to see what shape a new local economy might take.

The old economy could scarcely be more dead. In the early 1970s Sheffield (and nearby Rotherham) was a model heavy industrial area. Its mills spewed out steel and at every corner there were spin-off businesses of one sort or another. Nearly a third of the workforce was involved in the manufacture of metal or metal goods.

In the good times there was nowhere better. But when the downturn started the city was very vulnerable. In the buoyant years the city's unemployment was consistently below the national level. By the 1980s that had been turned on its head. Sheffield's unemployment ran steadily several points above the national average and its workforce and employers felt the city had been gutted.

A study by Sheffield University's town and regional planning department in the mid-1980s found leading figures in both the public and private sectors in dejected mood, openly saying that the city was now a backwater, a place where things would always be worse than in the UK as a whole.

That pall of depression has lifted: the city has regained its self-esteem. The great tracts of land left derelict when steel firms moved out are now seen as an opportunity, a place where new businesses can be built.

No one underestimates the problems, but Mr Betts thinks there is a recognition now that the city also has a lot of advantages: a pleasant environment, strong educational services (the university and the City Polytechnic both have first-rate academic reputations) and a skilled



Clive Betts, leader of Sheffield council, with Sheff, an English sheep dog chosen as the mascot for the World Student Games, which will be held in Sheffield in 1991

work-force with a long history of good industrial relations.

The creation in 1986 of the Sheffield Economic Regeneration Committee (SERC) is seen as a key move in bringing together the energies of the public and private sectors and other constituencies such as education, in a positive way. The new commonality of purpose is starting to find expression in schemes such as the city's Science Park, the first phase of which is already 80 per cent let, and has been given an enormous boost by the city's coup in winning the right to stage the 1991 World Student Games.

Mr Betts says the long-term aim must be to get unemployment down to where it was a decade ago (about five per cent) but, inevitably, it will be a different local economy.

"We'll still have a manufacturing base," he said. "I believe we should throw that away or believe we can't recreate something there. Metal skills will still form an important part of that, though I think there'll be some diversification into electronics and plastics and higher-tech industries."

In addition Mr Betts would like to attract more big company headquarters into the city and make Sheffield much more of a regional shopping centre. Rapprochement

with industry does not mean the city is watering down its socialism. With 66 Labour seats, and only 12 Conservative and nine Liberal representatives Sheffield can afford to make a song and dance about the public-service elements of its programme, which Mr Betts in any case argues are a positive incentive for industry. "If you've got a clean city and a green city that's the place in which new

'Viable and businesslike'

industry wants to locate," he said. "If you've got good education, it supports industry through training."

The other side of that coin is that if the area becomes more prosperous, everybody will share in that.

John Hambridge at the Chamber of Commerce thinks the closer working relationship will make a great change to the city's fortunes.

"There are many things which neither private nor public sector on its own could deliver, but put the two together and you've got a very powerful combination."

The World Student Games are a

case in point. He said: "It's going to be very much easier to convince the big sponsors who are going to be needed that it's a viable, business-like operation if in fact we have got the business community being seen supporting it, being part of it."

Will the partnership between city and industry last? The answer to that will probably come sooner than anyone expected. There is growing concern over one of the most recent developments in the city, the announcement of a government-sponsored Urban Development Corporation to stimulate growth and create new jobs in the old heartland of the steel industry, the near-derelict Lower Don Valley.

An independent survey by a firm of consultants, Coopers & Lybrand, commissioned by the SERC, had suggested a unique urban-regeneration project for Sheffield which would be run by a development company whose board would be nominated by the principal parties — leading firms, local businesses, community representatives and the city council.

The key factor in this approach was that it would be able to build on the growing partnership between private and public sectors. But the government ruled against that and instead said there would be a government-sponsored UDC.



Sheffield Brightside MP David Blunkett and guide dog Ted

Doubts of the Commons man

David Blunkett, MP for Sheffield Brightside since last year and Clive Betts' predecessor as council leader, is one of those who worries that the Urban Development Corporation will not allow for enough local input, writes Malcolm Brown. It could, he fears, undermine the existing partnership between local government and commerce.

He says that the present leadership of the Chamber of Commerce, and other business people in Sheffield, accept the role and legitimacy of the city council as a key motivator and vehicle for action in partnership with them.

"Should that change," he said, "then I think the thing would fall apart. I think if local democracy is simply sidelined, government would find something that I'm not sure that they recognize and that is that there's a very deep-seated, deep-rooted commitment by the people of Sheffield to their city... whatever problems local government have in other parts of the country, the city council and elected representatives are seen as the voice for that."

Sheffield is not a mini-Hongkong into which people

can be drawn as though it was a greenfield site, says Mr Blunkett. Sheffield's growth has to come out of mutual respect and understanding.

"I think we accepted that we either swam together or sank separately. The problem with the UDC is that it is wholly imposed, that the membership of it is deliberately marginalizing the role of the local representatives and local democracy, which has always played a very central part in the life of Sheffield."

John Hambridge is more sanguine. There were certainly people who would have preferred to have seen the money channelled through something like the partnership, but in the real world one simply has to work within the machinery of government. That, however, does not mean that the aspirations of the partnership will not be achieved.

"Where I think David makes a mistake," said Mr Hambridge "is in actually thinking that the players in the game that will make up the board of the UDC will in fact not be the same players who're sitting around SERC (the Sheffield Economic Regeneration Committee)."

SHEFFIELD Partnership in Action

Partnership in Action is a joint initiative bringing together the City Council and the Sheffield Business Community to attract new industry, investment and employment to Sheffield.

Since its launch, Partnership has reinforced co-operation between the city's public and private sectors in a range of development schemes, creating a new mood of confidence.

Crowning these achievements has been Sheffield's selection to host the 1991 World Student Games, the world's second largest sporting event.

Over the next five years around £1 billion of investment is proposed for Sheffield.

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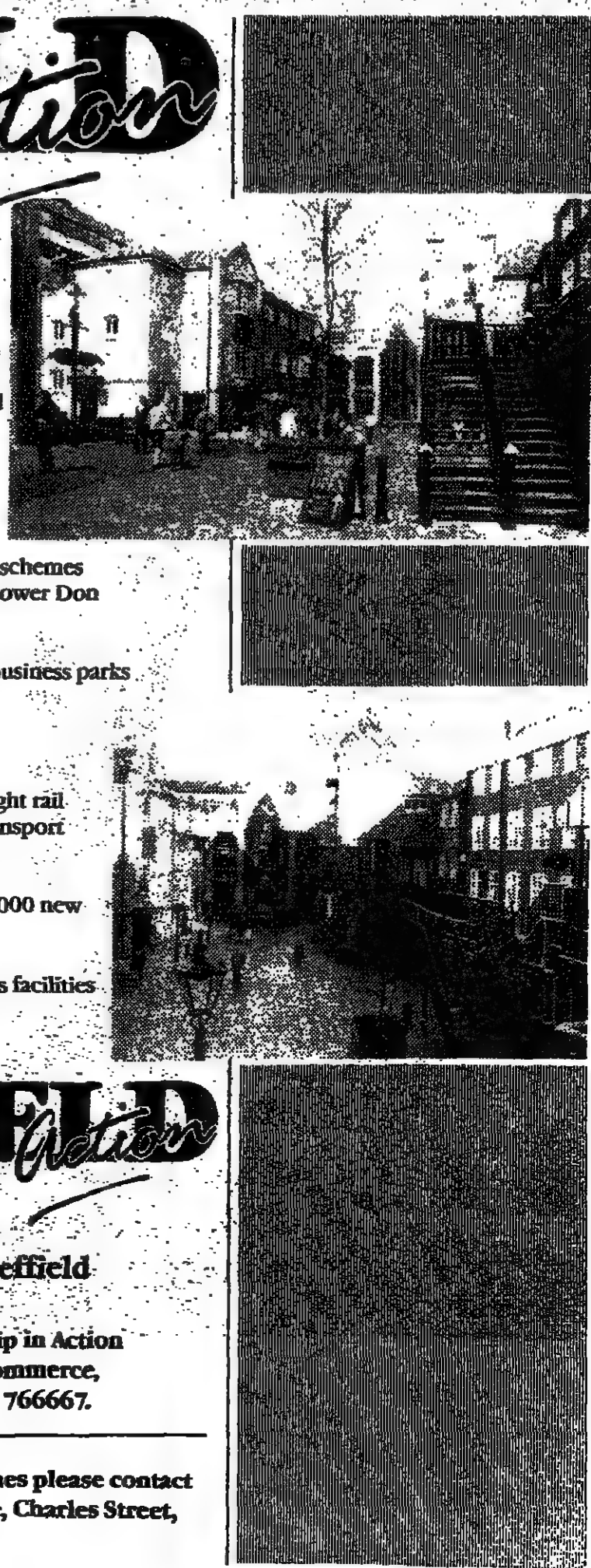
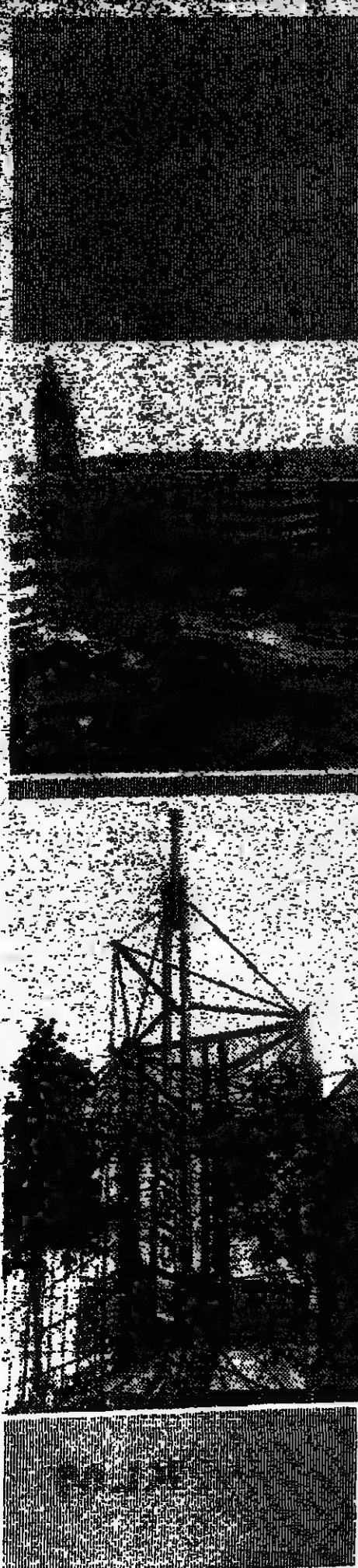
- Major shopping and leisure schemes within the city centre and Lower Don Valley
- New office developments, business parks and industrial schemes
- A Science Park for the city
- An airport, the supertram light rail service, and a city centre transport interchange
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For information about Partnership in Action please contact the Chamber of Commerce, Earl Street, Sheffield. Telephone: 766667.

For details of development schemes please contact the Sheffield Development Office, Charles Street, Sheffield. Telephone: 734208.



SHEFFIELD/2

FOCUS

The battle for joint action



Christopher Freegard, the city council's development manager and one of the leaders of the partnership campaign: opportunities for joint action

The city's campaign to lure industry and investment started formally last September, writes Malcolm Brown. It represents a thorough change of attitudes

Private industry and the public sector in Sheffield were polarized, particularly after the steel industry was devastated during the recession, and sniping at one another had become a way of life. "We went through a period in which both the public sector and the private sector within the city shouted about their differences in public, did not communicate, did not seem to be able to see each others viewpoint," said Christopher Freegard, development manager at the city council's Sheffield Development Office and one of the leaders of the partnership campaign. We felt that if we carried on like that we would drag ourselves down the drain and to some extent we would only have ourselves to blame. Neither side has abdicated its viewpoint or principles, says Mr Freegard, but they have been able to identify a lot of common ground and opportunities for joint action. One of the principal vehicles for this is the

Sheffield Economic Regeneration Committee (SERC), set up in late 1986, which draws together representatives of the public and private sectors, MPs, central government departments, trade unionists, educationalists and community groups.

One of the first things SERC did was to sponsor an independent study of the Lower Don Valley by Coopers & Lybrand which ultimately led, earlier this year, to the Government announcing that the valley was to get an urban development corporation to help pump new life into it. This was not perhaps the ideal solution the city's politicians might have hoped for (UDCs are closely tied to central government and Sheffield has a very independent-minded socialist administration) but at least something will be done to revitalize the area which was once the throbbing centre of the steel industry but is now largely derelict.

Other key projects the SERC has been involved in include a construction training programme and the attempt to set up a city airport.

The partnership campaign has two key phases, says Christopher Freegard. The first has been to focus on the audience within the city itself. "One of the most important ways that you help to shape and influence opinion about the city is for the existing businesses within Sheffield

to feel committed to the city, to be able to talk honestly and cogently about the advantages of Sheffield and to be able to put that over at whatever opportunity they could find," he said.

The next phase is a marketing exercise to try to sell the city externally, and the Mansion House reception in London this evening is one of the first steps in that.

"It's not just a background public relations campaign," says Christopher Freegard. "The most important work that has been carried out is on a company to company basis within specified sectors... otherwise it's a bottomless pit: you just chuck money at it forever and a day."

The city has already undertaken one foray in the South, even before the big splash at the Mansion House. In March the campaign organized an event in Maidenhead, Berkshire, in association with the Yorkshire and Humberside Development Association. Representatives of 25 companies turned up.

Christopher Freegard said: "I think I have a strong possibility of getting investment and relocation possibilities out of maybe six per cent."

Discussions are also taking place with government departments which are contemplating relocation and Freegard thinks there is a strong possibility of the city being short-

listed for two such schemes. Sheffield can already point, he said, to the tremendous success of relocating the Manpower Services Commission headquarters to the city.

"The MSC have done three things. First, they have saved the equivalent of £4,300 per job. Second, they've improved staff quality considerably. Third, staff turnover has dropped considerably, to a very low figure."

The city must head, says Mr Freegard, for strong development of knowledge-based industries (it already has good higher education facilities and a clutch of industrial research associations) and attracting what he calls "decision centres" (organizations such as the MSC). It also needs to attract more manufacturing industry.

The steel industry, although changed beyond recognition, still provides part of the industrial base but Freegard thinks Sheffield offers very real prospects for the development of other manufacturing industries.

"I speak with interest to people down in the south east who tell me that they've got spiralling problems due to congestion, can't get the workforce, labour costs are going through the roof, accommodation is costing them a fortune." It makes a lot of sense for them to look at Sheffield, said Mr Freegard.

High tech to helping Rastas

Marion Adkins, the manager of Sheffield's new science park, which has just opened for business up the hill from the railway station, is framing an old photograph to hang in her office, writes Malcolm Brown.

It is of a works outing which took place more than 70 years ago - the ladies and gentlemen of Coopers, a cutlery works, all dressed up in their finery to take the air. The photograph is a fitting link with the past. The first phase of the science park, a joint venture between Sheffield City Council and the English Estates Corporation, is housed in the old Coopers works, now gutted, redecorated and extended.

Sheffield cannot live on its past, but its history and traditions are found in every corner of the city and still intrude into its present. When the park is finished later this year it will cover five acres right in the centre of the city.

There is no strategic plan to push it in one direction or another, but the broad intention is that its tenants should be largely high technology companies of the sort which might want to develop close links with the university and the City Polytechnic, which is based just over the road.

The first phase is already 80 per cent occupied. Only five of the 22 units are still vacant.

One of the most important organizations on the park is the National Transport Support Centre, a collaborative venture involving the university and the polytechnic, which will give industry hands-on experience of transporters, the powerful new type of chip which allows a whole series of computational tasks to be done in parallel (instead of sequentially as in traditional computers) thus making the computers which use them much more powerful.



A self-erecting tower in Sheffield's science park being worked on by Chris Hague

The Sheffield centre, one of six being funded by the Science and Engineering Research Council, will cover the area from the Wash to the Pennines. The Sheffield centre is the largest of the six, says its manager, Roger England.

Other tenants include: **Scomag**: an engineering company which specializes in the design, manufacture and installation of process control and automation systems. Most of the company's clients come from the steel and power generation industries.

Scomag is based in Motherwell, Scotland, but has got so many projects for British Steel's stainless-steel division and for other engineering companies in the North that it has become worthwhile to transfer a group of project engineers to the city. The intention, says Bob Varlett, regional sales manager, is that some time next year the group of half a dozen or so now located in the Science Park will move to new accommodation in the city's River Don site where a manufacturing facility will also be built.

Geomatics: a software house which specializes in three-dimensional modelling of land for architects and planners, using the US Defense Department computer language, Ada.

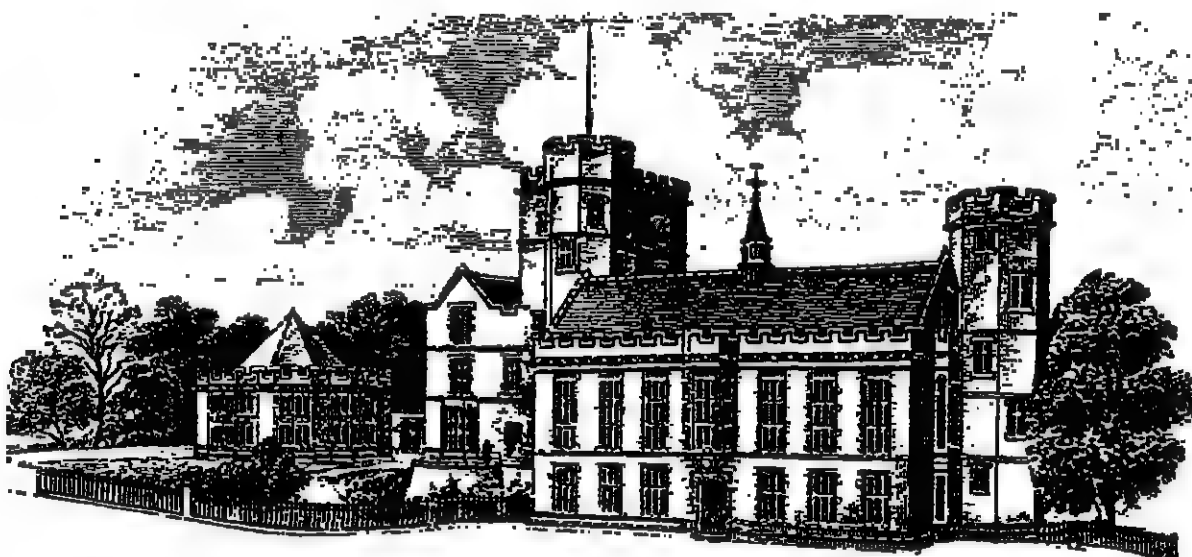
Scripture: the Sheffield Centre for Product Development and Technological Resources, an unusual agency which offers technical and engineering support to individuals and local industry who want to develop new products but may not have the in-house facilities to do it on their own.

The facilities are heavily subsidised so users often pay no more than about 20 per cent of the cost. The centre has developed everything, from electronic reading aids for those with poor eyesight to a special keyboard overlay which, when placed over a conventional word processor keyboard, allows the computer to be used by Urdu speakers.

Other specialists are at work on a multi-position chair for hospital use and a hair plaiting device, the brainchild of a formerly unemployed youth who believes he has found a way to plait Rastafarian hair more easily.

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- concessionary travel schemes for the elderly, children, scholars and handicapped persons.
- the management and supervision of bus stations in South Yorkshire.
- the provision of passenger information.
- support for the local South Yorkshire rail network - the Transport Executive specifying the fares and service levels on these local rail services.
- the development of bus & rail stations/passenger interchanges and new forms of passenger transport, e.g. trolley buses and light rail transit systems.

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The Transport Executive's plans in respect of public transport provision for the Sheffield area include proposals for:-

- a refurbished Sheffield Transport Interchange, linking the existing bus and rail stations. This high quality facility has been designed to meet the highest standards, so as to make its operation efficient, effective and attractive for customers to use. The major difference between the present bus station and the new interchange being the development of the main concourse which will contain shops, cafe, restaurant, waiting areas, toilet facilities for the disabled, telephones, travel information offices, travel agencies and shop units. Also as part of the development a comprehensive television based information system will be provided.
- the co-ordination of provision of public transport facilities to serve the proposed 140 acre Meadowhall Retail and Leisure Development. The proposed bus station/coach park will be an integral part of the development - funded by the developer, with the Transport Executive acting in a design/financing supervisory capacity. The proposed rail station, which will be served by the Transport Executive supported local rail services, could possibly be developed to accommodate Inter-City trains with the provision of strategic park/rail access to the Inter-City network.
- a light rail transit system "Supertram" - Line 1 (approximately 15 miles in length) to run across the centre of Sheffield from Hillsborough to Meadowhall, with Line 2 (approximately 4 miles in length) proposed as a spur from Line 1, into the Lower Don Valley - an efficient public transport system being essential for the development of industry and commerce - attracting new businesses and employment opportunities to the area. Line 2 also serving the sports facilities in the Lower Don Valley to be provided for the World Student Games in 1991.
- the co-ordination of public transport requirements for Sheffield during the period of the World Student Games.

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Exchange Street, Sheffield, S2 5SZ. Telephone (0742) 768688.

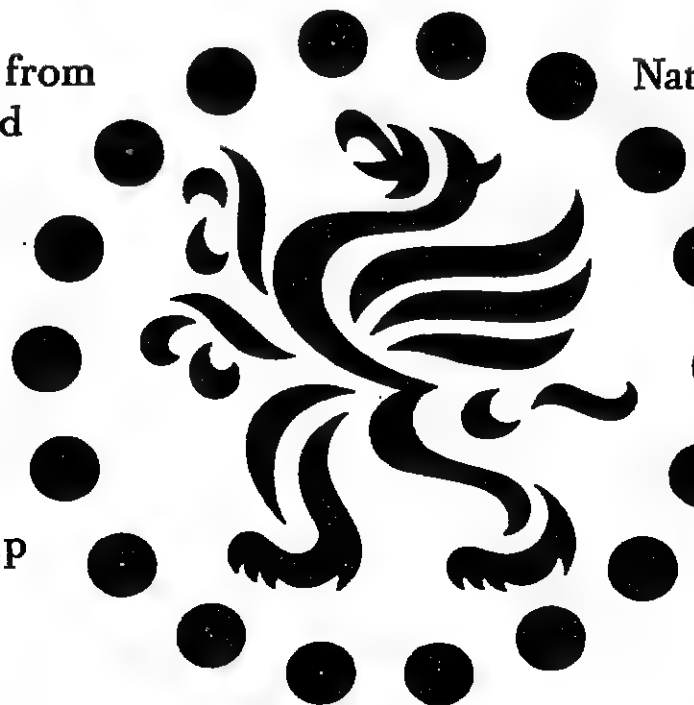
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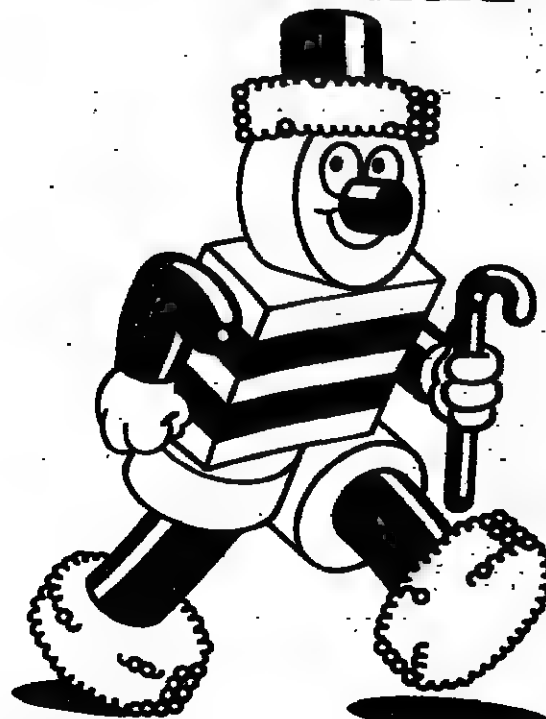
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The sweet side of Sheffield



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FOCUS

Game for a coup

John Goodbody reports on how Sheffield beat other cities to stage an international athletics festival

Sheffield has a momentous task when it stages the World Student Games in 1991, probably the biggest sports event to be held in Britain this century. More than 7,000 competitors from more than 120 countries will compete in the largest global competition outside the Olympic Games.

Hosting this biennial event is a profound responsibility in itself. Even if they have not attracted intense interest in Britain, the games, or Universiade, have been an established part of the sporting calendar since the first celebration in 1959 and some of the most distinguished names in sport first became internationally known at the event.

Alberto Tomba, the Italian skier, was the first to win a world record holder.

Nadia Comaneci, the Romanian gymnast, and Valeriy Brumel, the Soviet Union's celebrated high-jumper, all took part in the event. Jonathan Ridgeon, of Cambridge University and Britain's Athlete of the Year in 1987, is the 110-metre hurdles champion.

In overall standard the games are superior to the Commonwealth Games and also many continental championships in the individual sports. As Coe himself says: "It is important to see world-class athletes competing in Britain and also for the country to stage a world championship like this."

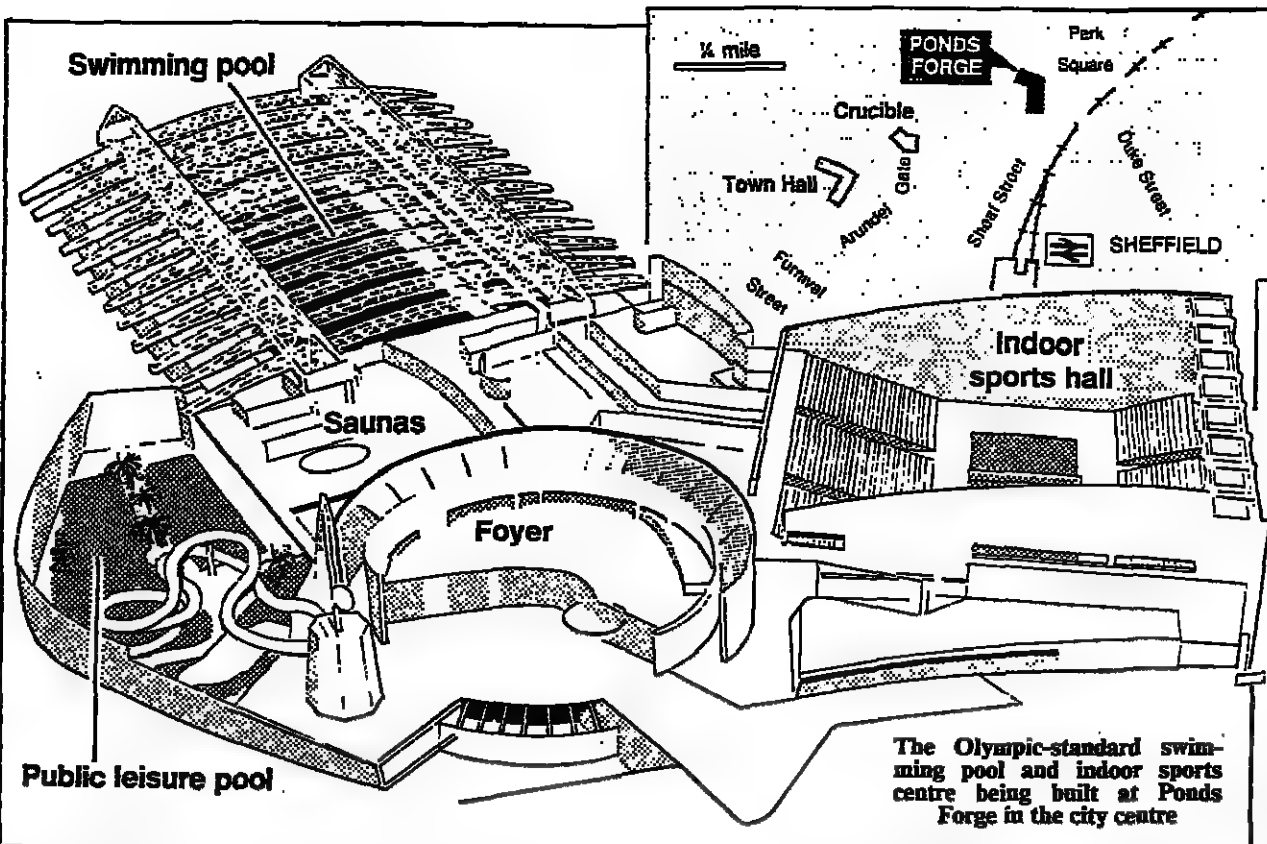
Given the disaster of the Commonwealth Games, Sheffield could be seen as foolhardy in trying to stage the 1991 event since most of the stadiums were barely on the drawing board. As with the

1986 Commonwealth Games, the Government has promised no direct financial support for the event. However, because the Government is committed to the regeneration of inner cities, money will be provided for building developments in Sheffield.

The Federation Internationale du Sport Universitaire (FISU), who is responsible for staging the event, has often had an admirable policy of giving the games to a city which is trying to provide excellent sports facilities for youth. It was immensely impressed with Sheffield's bid.

In February 1987, the city had been nominated by the British Student Sport Federation (BSSF) ahead of Edinburgh. A "bid development team" was formed to prepare a more detailed presentation to FISU at its general assembly in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, in July 1987. However, the president of FISU, Dr Primo Nebiolo, of Italy, told the assembly that the bidding had not yet formally opened. He was believed to be waiting to see whether Turin, which has twice staged the competition, would bid against Sheffield.

As temporary compensation, Sheffield offered and secured the staging of the executive committee meeting in November, 1987. Originally, it was believed that the committee would decide this month but last November Sheffield argued that the city needed as much time as possible to provide the facilities. The executive committee voted not to delay the decision and to give Sheffield the games immediately. Work could begin in earnest.



These are the main centres at which the games will be held:

● The games village in Hyde Park Flats. This is a high-rise complex of 1,169 flats, on a hill overlooking the city centre. It has a sleeping capacity of 4,500, but by putting beds in the living rooms, as is commonplace for games villages, it will be possible to accommodate at least 7,000 people.

The complex was built in 1966 but has proved unpopular with families since there has been a high crime rate and many other social problems.

It is 50 per cent empty already and could be completely vacated by the end of 1989. It will then be renovated, leased to the games organizers and could be turned into single person accommodation after 1991.

Various consortiums, including one with a housing action trust, are putting bids together for the site.

● The Don Valley Athletics Stadium. The stadium is a fine example of inner-

Why 7,000 will go into under 1,200

city regeneration. It will stand on the site of an abandoned steel mill and will cost about £18 million.

Originally the nearby Woodbourn Stadium was to be used for athletics, but it is too exposed to the elements and will now serve as just a warm-up track with a fenced-off pathway leading to the main 40,000-seater stadium, 10,000 seats being permanent.

The Don Valley Stadium will be sunk three metres to minimize the wind.

● The Don Valley Arena and Velodrome. The £30 million facility will

consist of a covered cycling track and a new 12,000 indoor arena.

For the games it will be used for gymnastics and the finals of the basketball and volleyball competitions. Afterwards, sports events can be staged in the arena and also displays and pop music concerts.

Negotiations are going on with an operating company to take over the centre after the games, the profits to be split between the operating company and the council.

● Ponds Forge Swimming Pools and Sports Hall and the Beulah Road Centre. In total, the two complexes will cost nearly £20 million and will replace three antiquated swimming pools.

Ponds Forge will have a 10-lane, 50-metre Olympic pool, a diving pool, a sports hall and also a leisure pool.

At Beulah Road there will be a 33-metre swimming pool to be adapted for water polo. Volleyball will also be held at Beulah Road.

Spotlight on Britain, not just the city

The 1991 games will consist of 11 sports: athletics, tennis, basketball, football, fencing, gymnastics, swimming, diving, water polo, volleyball and also hockey, which is Sheffield's choice as the optional sport, writes John Goodbody.

The financing of the games is divided into two main areas. First, there is the providing of the facilities for these sports and also the housing of the competitors. The council, says Malcolm Newman, its treasurer, is the "catalyst" to bring about their financing.

About £105 million is needed for the various centres, in many cases with the council guaranteeing loans from merchant banks. Mr Newman explains that the games "have just been the impetus to get the facilities for sport and leisure, which are needed in the city irrespective of staging the games. They will be of enormous benefit to the whole community for years to come."

He is "totally confident" that the facilities will be built.

centre. Sadly, neither club was able to realize the benefits of co-operating with the council over the building of a large, new stadium to be jointly used for football and athletics, and other sports.

Therefore, the needless duplication of facilities, which has plagued British sport for years, will still continue in Sheffield, with everyone losing from the failure to implement such an enterprise. At least Bramall Lane and Hillsborough can be used to stage the football tournament and there are eight further Football League stadiums within an hour's drive of the city.

Though the council is responsible for the construction of the venues, Universiade GB Ltd, the trading company of the Sheffield Leisure and Recreational Trust, is handling the actual running of the games. The company will lease the facilities and the games village from the council and be responsible for raising the £30 million needed to stage the event.

Eight further Football League stadiums within hour's drive

Reassurances are necessary after the lessons of the 1976 Olympics in Montreal when some of the construction was not completed in time. Many of the Sheffield sites are close together, an ideal arrangement for a multi-sport event. They are also largely within 15 minutes' walk of the games village at Hyde Park Flats.

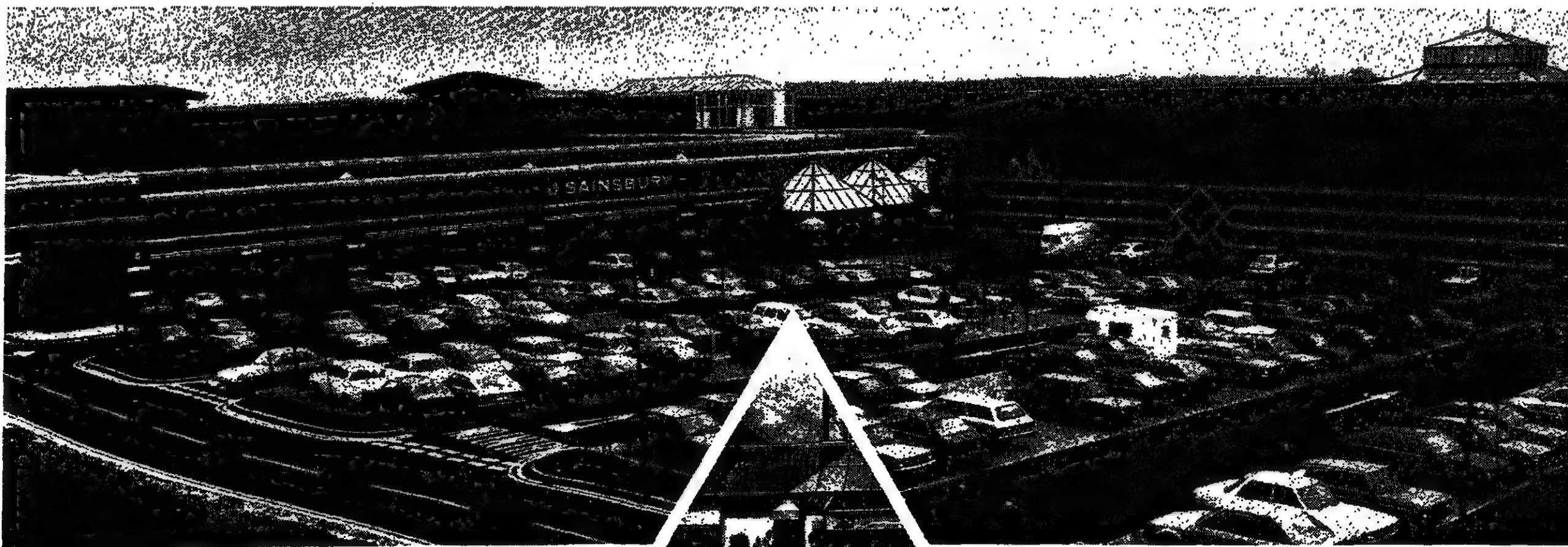
Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, has been advising on finance and Keith Prowse, the ticket agent, has been employed to look after the sponsors. Both companies are so respected in their fields that they would not attach their names to a venture unless they were confident of its success.

In several cases deals are being worked out between the council and private companies for those facilities that have a commercial appeal. These will be a joint venture between the two and a split on the profits is being negotiated.

The council had also hoped to extend this joint-ownership to at least one of the two football clubs in the city: Sheffield Wednesday, who play at Hillsborough, and Sheffield United, whose ground is at Bramall Lane near the city

Peter Burns, a former chairman of Crown Paints, who is the chief executive, Universiade GB Ltd, says he is "very aware, as any sensible person would be, of the formidable task ahead". Apart from the raising of the money, there are all the myriad of detailed arrangements, such as the transporting of the competitors, the staffing of the facilities, the housing of the visiting spectators, and the finding of at least 10,000 volunteers to help run the games themselves.

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SHEFFIELD/4

FOCUS

Schemes that cater for the city's special needs

Sheffield has two leading institutions of higher education, the university and the City Polytechnic, five further education colleges, and a clutch of national industrial research associations including the British Glass Industry Research Association (BGIRA), the Cutlery and Allied Trades Research Association (CATRA), the Spring Research and Manufacturers Association (SRAMA) and the Steel Castings Research and Trade Association (Scrata), writes Malcolm Brown.

A number of training schemes have been started in the city to cater for special needs. These include:

● **Information technology:** Sheffield now has two Information Technology Centres aimed at young people. The first, set up by the city council in 1982, covers computing, micro-electronics and electronic office skills. The second, opened two years ago, is run by the Engineering Industry Training Board.

● **Women and technology:** The city council launched a Womens Technology Training Workshop in 1984 to help provide women with the skills for high technology industries.

● **Innovation:** The council is establishing a Sheffield Innovation Training Unit at the city's new Science Park to help people develop such skills as product design and development.



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ENGLISH ESTATES
The Developing Agency

How to understand the Japanese

Doing business in Japan is not an easy task but good advice is now forthcoming from Sheffield's Japan Business Services Unit

Rosemary Yates claims she set up the University of Sheffield's Japan Business Services Unit in 1983 as a sort of one-woman job-creation unit. She had just done her master's degree in Japanese linguistics and was determined that she was not going to end up in London like everyone else in the Japanese studies industry. So she suggested to the university that the demand in British industry for expertise in things Japanese was so great that both she and the university could benefit from tapping this rich seam writes Malcolm Brown.

"I proposed to the university that we should try this and they very kindly, thinking I was off my head, gave me a three month contract to write a business plan."

Five years later the unit is thriving, has a staff of five (including two Japanese women) and a list of more than 300 client companies. "We've got the whole spectrum. We've got the very small company who may contact us because they want some business cards or a bit of hand-holding before going off on a trade mission (their first visit to Japan) and we're doing work on a regular basis for some major international organizations which have their own offices in Japan and yet want us to do various things to complement that."



A thriving business: Yoshimi McLeod at the Japan Business Services Unit, Sheffield

The unit offers a range of services from translation and interpreting, to crash introductory courses in the language and briefings on everything from culture to etiquette. It also offers advice on Korea.

Mrs Yates says it is possible to teach the rudiments of Japanese

(just enough to provide a reasonable foundation on which the businessman can build when he gets to Japan) in two or three weeks. The courses are not cheap (about £265 a day) but for that the student gets eight solid hours a day of one-to-one tuition.

In fact, says Mrs Yates, learning Japanese is not the most important thing for those who want to do business in the country.

"Serious knowledge of the lan-

guage is less important for a British businessman than understanding how to behave properly in Japan. I'd say that's the single most important thing."

She tells her clients about the basic ground rules. Some are surprising. Cold-calling, for example, which is commonplace in this country, simply does not work in Japan. Time and patience, are essential - it may take a very long time and lots of money to establish a working relationship.

"It's no good wandering into Japan and saying: 'I'm on my way to Hongkong but I thought I'd come here because I've got the most wonderful bargain...here you are, why don't you buy it?'"

Even at the simplest level business methods can be perplexing. A Japanese businessman going through the points of a contract, for example, may well intone 'Yes, yes' at each point. "He's not agreeing," says Mrs Yates, "he's simply saying 'Yes, I'm awake, I'm listening to you. I'm following what you say.' He could be completely disagreeing with you."

So understanding what the Japanese mean rather than what they actually say, is an important accomplishment that has to be learned.

The unit is increasingly doing consultancy work for companies. It draws together the published information on the country and also does on-the-spot legwork in Japan using its own network of contacts.

Although entirely independent of the academic departments the unit does draw heavily on the expertise of staff in the university's Centre for Japanese Studies and the Korean Studies Unit. The association with the university seems to be highly valued by the Japanese, so the link is likely to remain even though the unit is now financially completely self-sustaining.

"In five years time," says Mrs Yates, "I'd like to think that we were much the same as we are now, but larger, more specialized (we should have staff specializing in Korea and China all the time.)"

"We need more staff. We're always working at fever pitch."

Breathing new life into the Don

The Lower Don Valley changed over the last decade from being one of Britain's most important and prosperous industrial areas into a blighted corridor in urgent need of new investment and jobs. It was devastated by the closure of eight large companies between 1974 and 1986 with the loss of 18,000 jobs, more than half the total in the valley.

The Lower Don was the keystone of Sheffield's industry and the collapse pushed up the city's un-

employment level from four per cent to 18 per cent as the steel and engineering industries shed labour and entered a period of severe rationalization and streamlining.

The most recent attempt to pinpoint the centre of the crisis and shape a new future for 2,600 industrial acres that were rapidly deteriorating has been an independent study by a group of planners, surveyors and engineers from Sheffield Polytechnic, Coopers and Lybrand, Drivers Jonas and Crouch and Hog. Their report, funded by government, Sheffield City Council and the local business community, suggested a range of measures that would require more than £500 million from public and private sources to achieve over a seven year timescale.

The blow to Sheffield's traditional industries had resulted in more than one third of the Lower Don valley becoming derelict and some million square feet of largely unconvertible factory space falling empty.

In spite of this the valley remained a nationally important centre for the metals industry, with facilities for manufacturing and processing special steels and foundries for cutlery and tool making. These jobs account for 72 per cent of the 17,000 that remain in small-scale businesses that dominate what remains of industry in the Lower Don.

The report suggested a strategy to revive the area and addressed the sensitive question of Sheffield's relations with central government, in which a Labour controlled council whose city-led initiatives have in the past clashed with Whitehall.

Their new approach designed to overcome these historic obstacles to private sector investment was not accepted by government, although a willingness to bury divisions and work for the benefit of the city has clearly emerged.

Instead of an Urban Regeneration Project directed by a management board comprising government, city council, private sector and community organizations, a solution favoured by the

council, the Government has announced an urban development corporation to regenerate the Lower Don Valley with a spending power of £50 million over the next seven years.

The decision was welcomed by Sheffield's business leaders but the city council was disappointed. Councillor Clive Betts, leader, said he was unhappy about the imposition of an "undemocratic" body to perform a task that could have been done more effectively through the local partnership arrangement already operating with the private sector.

But rare indeed is the council that turns its back on £50 million these days and Councillor Betts said the money would not be dismissed out of hand. It was a

mark, he said, that the government recognized public sector money was necessary to stimulate economic regeneration.

The Sheffield Economic Regeneration Report laid down a number of key "flagship projects" to seed wider development and which are certain to be handed on to the new corporation for consideration.

They include a River Corridor Programme to develop small industrial units, leisure and recreational sites, a riverside walkway and locations for an Advanced Metals and Materials Centre, the Cutlery and Handtools Initiative and an Urban Studies Centre. This 80 acre programme would cost £21.5 million.

Ronald Faux



Hope follows dereliction: the Lower Don Valley

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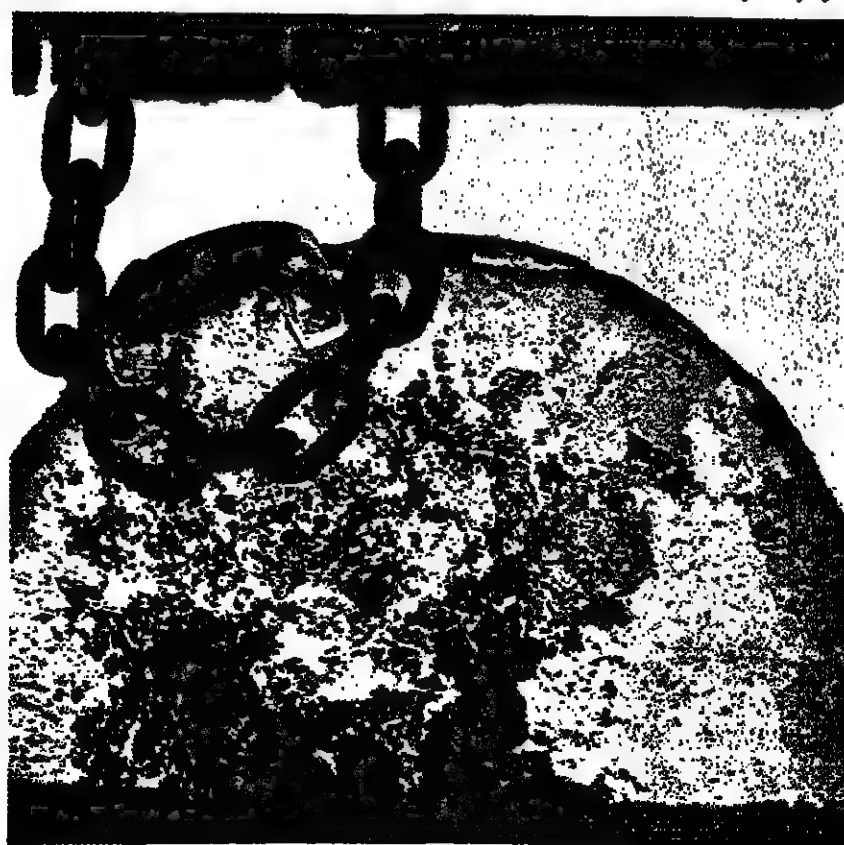
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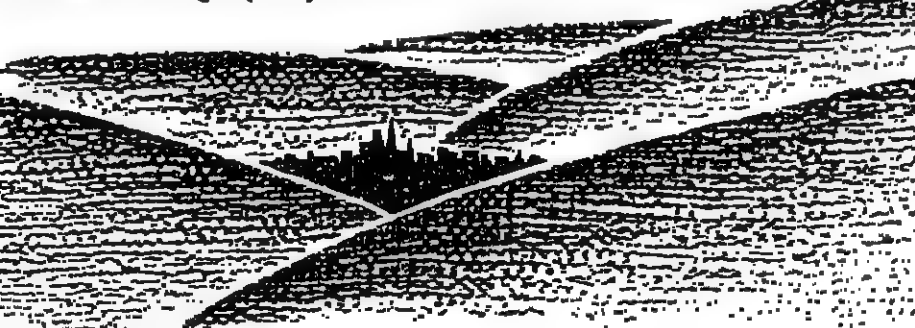
Sheffield City Polytechnic is delighted to have been closely associated with the development of the Sheffield Science Park and the plans to regenerate the City's Lower Don Valley.

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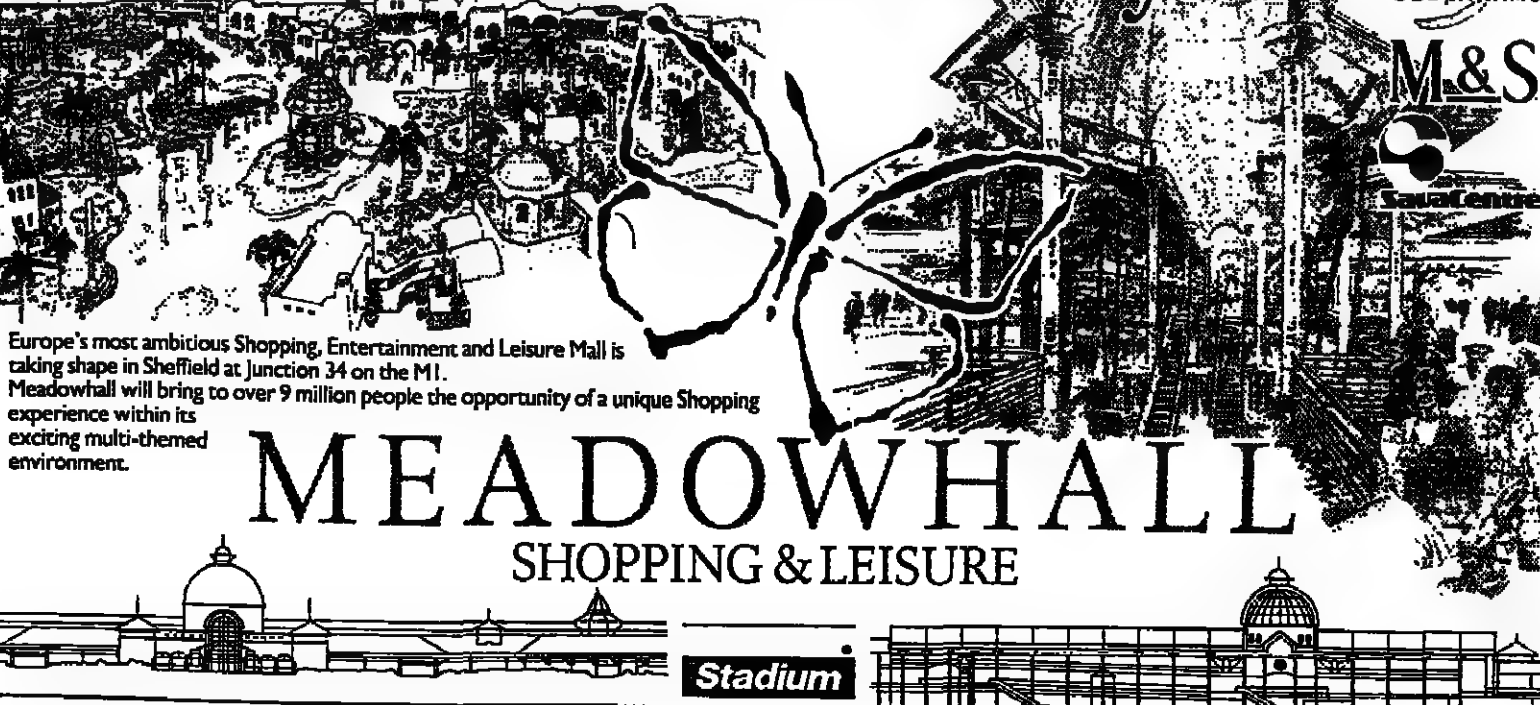
For instance, our Business School which is rapidly becoming one of the UK's leading management development centres, counts many major local companies among its clients. Our China Services Centre is helping organisations in South Yorkshire and elsewhere develop markets in China. Our Centre for Advanced Manufacturing Technology is supporting firms switching to computer-aided design and manufacturing systems. And our Electron Optics and Surface Analysis Centre is providing a vital materials testing service to manufacturing industry.

-Just a few of the educational, technical and consultancy services provided for industry by Sheffield City Polytechnic.

For further information contact the Department of External Liaison and Development, Arundel House, Furnival Square, Sheffield S1 4QL. (0742) 720911 Ext 2397.



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SHEFFIELD/5



What sign? Two lads try their luck with a little angling at a Sheffield canal basin

Talent finds a new home

Ronald Faux looks at how local culture is being stimulated by new centres and facilities

Sheffield looked south with envy at the prosperity generated in London through the media and music industries and at the hundreds of thousands of jobs linked to film, broadcasting, design, printing and publishing and the record business.

With modern communication methods, desk-top publishing systems and the application of high technology to "culture", the city council recognized that none of these lucrative activities need be anchored to one centre, even one so magnetically attractive as London.

Following the policy of creating first the environment, then attracting the industry the city has set about developing and expanding its own thriving cultural sector.

There was already a wealth of creative talent and experience around the city to draw on through established printers, commercial photographers, silversmiths and private recording studios and on that base was set the Leadmill music, dance and arts centre as a central focus for cultural activity.

Opened in 1982, it attracts more than 300,000 visitors a year and is already

being expanded and refurbished. An adjoining building that was once a cutlery factory is being turned into a visual arts and media centre in partnership with the Workers' Educational Association and other groups working in the same field.

The old Scotia Works will bring together a variety of resources and offer vocational training. Close by is the Yorkshire Art Space Society which coordinates 24 studios and craft workshops at the Sydney Works for commercial photographers, printers and a variety of fine artists.

The city council is developing its own music studios not with any intention of developing a new style to its own debates but to offer recording, rehearsal and training facilities to local musicians — in particular the unemployed.

The scheme will develop in two stages and the aim is to provide eight rehearsal rooms, one large enough to accommodate a choral society and a 16-track recording studio and control room. Clearly the council expects that this nucleus will draw in a wider range of cultural activities for Sheffield-based bands. Record labels have already invested in their own studios within the complex.

Among them are the Comet Angels, who have developed a 24-track recording studio for private and commercial use with financial support from Island Records (New York). The Human

League's 24-track studio is being used by the band as a base for their own record label, promoting local music. The level of facilities with their support industries providing equipment supply and hire and links with international record and management companies has placed Sheffield firmly on the music industry map.

Training for photographers is provided at the Untitled gallery and workshop, an active centre which aims to foster a wider public use and understanding of photography.

There are two galleries, a bookshop, library and cafe area and well-equipped darkroom facilities to which the public can have access.

Central to the next stage in the development of cultural industry will be growth in the audio-visual sector. Sheffield is already an important centre for independent film, video and television programme production. Since 1985 the city council has been a partner with Channel Four Television, Yorkshire Arts and the British Film Institute, which financially supports Sheffield Independent Film.

SIF provides an umbrella for independent film and video makers in the region and through collective ownership of a wide range of broadcast quality equipment and through comprehensive training programmes in how to use it, Sheffield productions have won international acclaim.

Sharpening entrepreneurs' buying tastes

Roland Walker, chairman and managing director of the Rotary Electrical Company, one of Sheffield's leading electrical and mechanical engineering companies, holds the ancient position of Master Cutler, which next to Lord Mayor is the city's grandest office, writes Ronald Faux.

It has appeared, perhaps, less grand in recent years as the cutlery industry was thrown into such despair by recession and a flood of cheap, foreign imports.

But there is nothing despairing about Mr Walker these days. "Some financiers in London recently told me they'd heard there was a wind of change blowing through Sheffield. Wind of change — I told 'em — it's going to be a hurricane."

Mr Walker pins much faith on the new partnership between the City Council and the Chamber of Commerce, which historically have not always seen eye to eye about

which direction Sheffield should be pressing development and who should be controlling it.

Now there was a great deal of cooperation and a sense that Sheffield can achieve nothing worthwhile without cooperative effort. The improvement had accelerated rapidly over the last nine months and in his own company alone turn-over had increased 25 per cent in the past year.

The improvement might add an extra sparkle in the 62 diamonds that decorate the Master Cutler's badge of office but it is the new sense of realism that has invaded Sheffield's slimmed-down industries that has most brightened Mr Walker's hopes for the city's future.

"There was a very bad patch in the early 80s when the whole of heavy industry went through a terrible time. Many jobs were lost and factories closed because of the overcapacity in steel. When that



Roland Walker, the Master Cutler, in the Cutlers Hall, flanked by portraits of his predecessors

happens, people become uncertain and they lash out in any direction. It is hard for them to accept that something that is dying cannot always be saved," he said.

What Sheffield could offer industry was a tremendous bargain — factory space at £5 or £10 a square foot against £40 in London; a really comfortable home in beautiful countryside with cash left to invest, compared with the high-priced suburbs of London and the South-east,

and excellent communications.

Reflecting the trend for expansion, his own company had begun a joint venture in Australia and another with the Japanese was planned for next year. "We have the skills and we have a very loyal workforce — we've handed out so many gold watches we could start a jeweller's shop. There is nothing Sheffield need fear in the future if this sense of partnership continues," he said.

Sometimes success can be a problem

most street corners can be caught a glimpse of green countryside. Trees reach into the city centre and within a short drive there are the superb open spaces of the Peak District National Park spreading deep into Derbyshire.

This is an incomparable asset to Sheffield for the prime test of urban regeneration is that above all else the environment must be right. Companies will not even consider moving or trying to persuade their staff to relocate somewhere that is not attractive.

With its natural surroundings, Sheffield has found this less of a problem and the expansion of the service sector has continued apace. The city this

month announced a massive development boom centred on the service industries with 78 multi-million pound projects ranging from the £225 million Meadowhall Shopping Centre to a 12-storey office block that would add to the Manpower Services Commission headquarters and a redevelopment of the old canal basin.

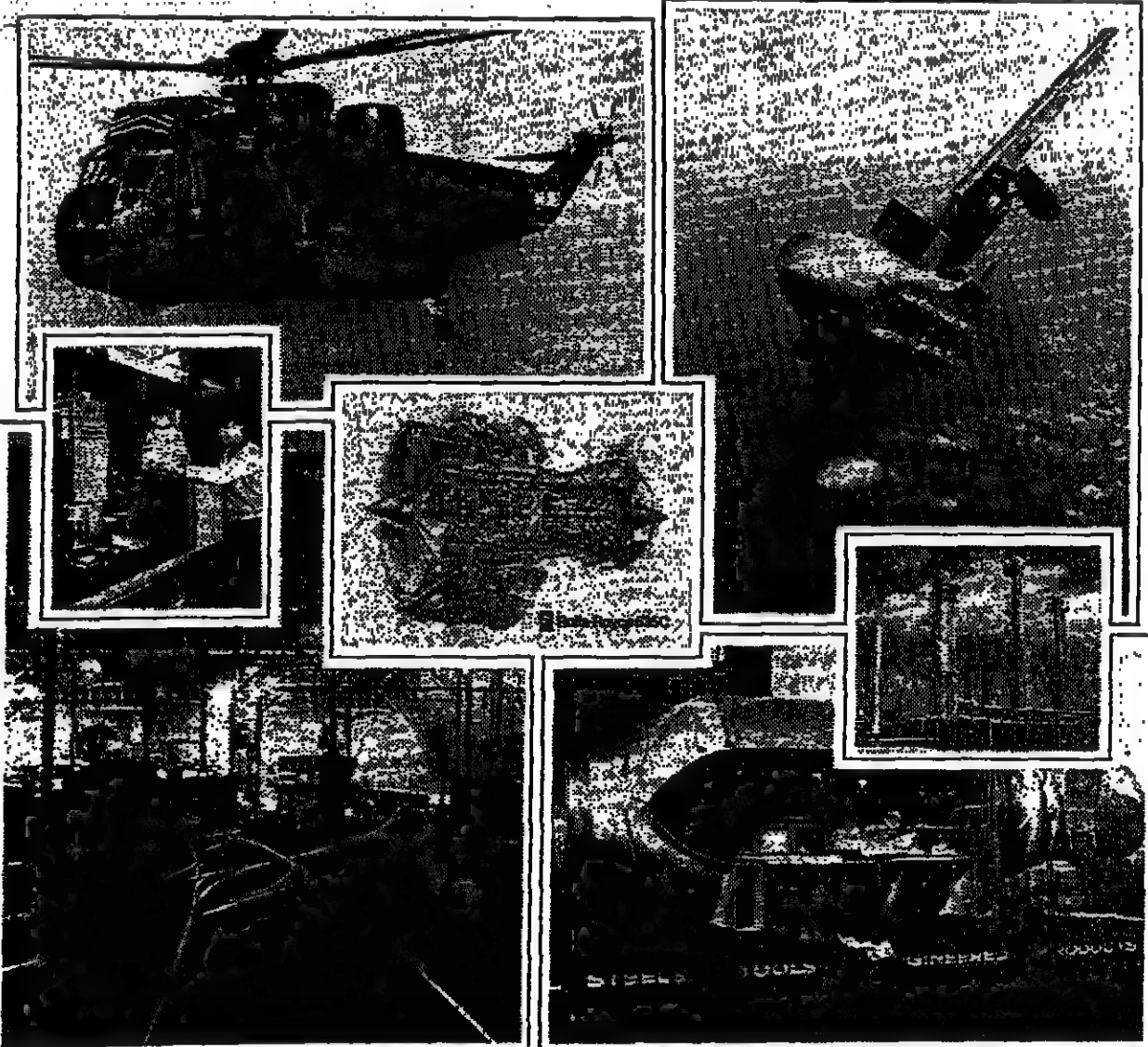
The Forgemasters 2000 project in the northern end of the Lower Don Valley will provide a £30 million retail warehouse park to complement the 'High Street' shopping complex at Meadowhall.

Within the city centre, four large-scale office schemes are in preparation, two of which will begin construction this year, the largest developed by Slade Investments at Moor-

foot with much of the space booked before completion. Two business parks and four "mews" office schemes are also being proposed to allow the city to broaden the range of new accommodation on offer.

The first phase of a £6.5 million science park has been opened and is largely let and English Estates will complete a second phase of larger units later this year. There is confidence that these will command rent levels equal to prime office space and that they will be quickly taken up.

The council admits that though there have been no speculative industrial schemes begun, the industrial property market continues to show sustained recovery. Two leading industrial concerns are relocating and a shortage of good quality serviced industrial sites threatens — a problem of success that Sheffield until recently would have only dreamed about.



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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

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Information and Publicity
Officer

Applications are invited for a new part-time post of Information and Publicity Officer (IPO) at the Tree Council. The IPO will develop effective cooperation with the media and relevant national organisations in order to improve public response to the need for more trees and better care of trees. The IPO will also assume responsibility for editing 'Tree News'.

Applicants should have substantial relevant experience and should combine a sound knowledge of tree matters with a flair for public relations and enthusiasm to promote the Tree Council's cause. Ability to type would be an asset. Starting salary in the region of £6,000 to £7,000 a year, for a 21-hour working week.

Please apply in writing not later than 10th June.

Tree Council
Administration Officer

Applications are invited for the post of Administration Officer at the Tree Council. Duties include keeping the accounts, typing and despatch of mail, answering telephone enquiries, taking minutes of meetings and general office management.

The vacancy will arise in late September 1988, but an overlap with the present occupant of the post will be arranged. Starting salary £9,000 a year. Please apply in writing not later than 24th June.

Applications to:
Peter N. Gerosa,
Secretary, The Tree Council,
35 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QN.

Chief Executive

This is an opportunity to lead a national charity founded nearly 25 years ago which has grown rapidly in the current decade. TURNING POINT is recognised as a leader in providing rehabilitation, counselling and care for people suffering the effects of drug and alcohol misuse and for the long term mentally ill. It now employs over 150 people and has a revenue around £4m.

Responsibility of the Chief Executive is for contribution to policy and its implementation at the Head Office in London and through a wide regional network. The role demands the ability to direct a lively, growing enterprise and judgement in restructuring the organisation to suit the demands of growth.

Evidence of success in management in a complex organisation is a prime requirement. This must be coupled with personal qualities suited to high level contact in government and business. Experience of the voluntary or public sector could be an advantage.

Preferred age under 50. Salary is for discussion over £25,000 pa.

Please write, in confidence, with full CV to Geoffrey Elms, Charity Appointments, 3 Spital Yard, Bishopsgate, London E1 6AQ.

Charity
Appointments

(A registered charity serving the voluntary sector.)

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RESEARCH
OFFICER

The RCN, the independent trade union representing nursing staff, has a vacancy for a Research Officer, working in its Labour Relations Department.

Reporting to the Senior Research Officer, the postholder will assist in the preparation of briefing material and reports on a wide range of employment and social deriving from the RCN's role as a professional trade union.

The successful applicant will be numerate and possess the ability to communicate both orally and in writing. A relevant degree is required and experience of research in employment and social issues would be an advantage, as would computer based research skills. Training in the use of new technology will be provided if required.

Salary will be on the scale £12,373-£14,054 inclusive of London Weighting, there is a contributory pension scheme and smoking in RCN premises is discouraged.

To informally discuss this post with our Senior Research Officer, please phone 01-498 3333 ext. 322.

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HORIZONS

Smile while you're casting
a beady eye over the books

A careers video for undergraduates outlines the work of the Tax Inspectorate by following an investigation conducted by a young inspector, tracking down thousands of pounds of unpaid tax by two company directors who seem to be engaging in every fiddle under the sun - undeclared profits, secret bank accounts and homes improved at company expense. Overdone, perhaps, for the purpose of the film? Not according to David Richardson, an Economic History graduate and Inspector (Principal). Such things are not uncommon.

"Our role is to assess the profits of businesses with an understanding of what they should be making. I like the intellectual challenge. You have to understand law, accountancy, and the way businesses work. You do your research, evaluate it, and form an opinion." David Richardson followed the Revenue's three year graduate training course, during which trainee inspectors get practical experience and attend theoretical courses to enable them to pass exacting exams. Then comes a technical consolidation year.

"During that year the most difficult cases should be allocated to you so that you gain real experience." After that year inspectors are normally promoted to Inspector (P) and spend a few years doing "high-quality technical work" with large companies before being reviewed for promotion to higher grades, at which they manage staff while still retaining a caseload.

Unusually, David, obviously a high flier, was seconded to the Department of Trade and Industry for two years, giving advice to officials and ministers and taking his turn in the "box" (in the House of Commons where civil servants are on hand to provide information to ministers during debate). Now he is working in the Policy Division at the Revenue's head office. The next move will probably be to a District.

Most people would assume that all Inland Revenue staff work, like David, dealing with income tax, and the majority do. The Revenue employ 68,000 staff of whom two-thirds are based in one of 600 local tax offices. But taxes are assessed and collected separately. A further 13 per cent work in Collection, or in offices dealing with specialist areas such as stamp duty or inheritance tax. Like all organizations, the Revenue has its specialists too: economists, accountants, lawyers, statisticians, and information technologists. Then there is Valuation, the third major area of work. The Valuation Office and its staff are part of the Revenue.

improve job specifications and career structure, but will this be enough?

Gillian Levinson works in rural Norfolk in a District Valuer's Office. The valuation office is responsible for valuation lists throughout England and Wales, showing every type of domestic and commercial property. Secondly, it can be called upon to value any property which may be subject to tax, and thirdly, it does valuations in the case of properties to be acquired compulsorily by government departments or local authorities.

Gillian did a degree in urban estate surveying, is a corporate member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, and joined as a valuer. However, had she not been qualified, the valuation office would have trained her to RICS standards. It operates a training scheme for graduates in other disciplines and A-level entrants who join as cadet valuers.

Much maligned, the Tax

Inspectorate still offers real challenges

which draw on a range of skills; skills which are very much in demand

in the 'opposite' camp of financial analysis

in the private sector,

explains Beryl Dixon

Gillian bubbles with enthusiasm. She worked previously in private practice, did not enjoy it, and has obviously found her niche. In Norwich, where she is based as a senior valuer, she has a geographical area to look after, and responds to every call that comes up. She has had some adjustments to make, not coming from a rural background. "I've had to learn how to value a pig farm, and I've spent three days on a course learning how to value timber."

Other valuations have included licensed properties, fishing rights and a milkround, as well as the more mundane tasks. Confidence comes with experience, even in court work. "I did several cases in the Valuation Court yesterday with no problem, whereas the first time I didn't eat for a week beforehand."

Gillian gets her satisfaction from job variety and the respect that valuers' knowledge commands from other professionals like accountants, solicitors,

and private practice surveyors. Cynics might say this is due rather to a degree of self interest, or even anxiety, when a compensation claim is involved, but all valuers emphasize the need to be, and seem to be, impartial. "You must, must, must be fair and equal," she says.

Stephanie O'Connor is one of the 9,000 Collection staff. She joined the Inland Revenue after an unsatisfying experience in data processing. She is also a graduate (in Geology), and unlike David, who applied through the Civil Service Commission graduate entry procedure, she chose to take Executive Officer selection tests - an increasingly common way for graduates to enter the Civil Service, and nominated the Revenue as her first choice of department.

"I wanted a career with some management in it, also contact with people, and I felt I needed something where I would have to think on my feet. As far as the former is concerned, she has a section of five to manage, and as a visiting officer, she has to call on people who are ignoring demands to pay tax - situations which call for the instant thinking. If she opted for County Court work, which could be her next job, since at her grade postings are usually annual, she would have to do even more.

Do you have to be tough, and is she a good judge of character? Stephanie explained that most people are reasonable when handled tactfully, but some can be abusive. She admits to having been glibly able to accept an offer to pay. "I'd come back in, saying 'I'm sure this one will pay; he's promised'. The others would look at me."

The Inland Revenue has a lot to offer graduates as an employer, says Elaine Wood, a Biology graduate, and now an Inspector (P) and doing her two-year head office stint in graduate recruitment - "even though we're not everyone's favourite people."

Even so, the Revenue is experiencing difficulty in retaining trained staff. Naturally, those I spoke to were contented. It will probably keep them. But what about others, tax inspectors in particular, whose qualifications are much in demand elsewhere?

The Civil Service as a whole cannot compete with private sector salaries: the Revenue, in particular, sees large numbers of qualified staff leaving to work on the other side of the fence - experienced inspectors going to accountancy practices and tax consultancies where they can literally double their salaries. The Revenue is doing as much as it can to improve job specifications and career structure, but will this be enough?

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Closing date for receipt of applications: 16 June 1988

Interviews will be held on: Friday, 22 July 1988

For further details, please contact:

Mrs Joyce Chamberlain
Head of Personnel and Administrative Services
Council for National Academic Awards
344-354 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8BP
Tel: 01-278 4411 Ext 262

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Letters of application enclosing a CV should be submitted to the Director of the Fund, from whom further particulars are available, by 27 May 1988.

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The National Heritage Memorial Fund, 10 St James's Street, London SW1A 1EF. Telephone 01-930-0963

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Personnel Reception,
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Telephone (0482) 446506.

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For an informal discussion about the post telephone Graham White, Deputy Town Clerk on Colchester (0206) 712201.

Closing date: 24th June 1988. Application forms and further details are available from: The Personnel Section, Town Hall, High Street, Colchester. CO1 1PJ. Telephone 712246.

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For an informal visit please contact: Mrs J. Becht, Director of Patient Services, on Salisbury (0722) 33222 ext 2030.

For an application form and job description for the above two posts, please write to: The Personnel Department, Osbeck Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 6SA.

Closing date for above two posts: June 1, 1988.

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Senior Revenues
Officer

PO (5-8) upto £15,507
plus Essential User Car Allowance

We are seeking an enthusiastic person with appropriate Revenues experience, whose major role will be to report to, and advise the Principle Revenues Assistant in both planning and implementation of the Community Charge. The postholder will be involved in all aspects of the new legislation, up to its implementation, whereby the post will then be integrated within the revenues section.

Candidates should preferably possess appropriate qualifications, RVA or CIPFA, with several years' Revenues/Collection experience. The post carries an Essential User Car Allowance. Salary dependent upon qualifications and experience. For an informal discussion please contact: R. J. Phillips, Principal Revenues Assistant, on Corby 402551 (Ext 3101).

Application forms and further details are available from the Revenues Services Section, Civic Centre, George Street, Corby, Northants. NN17 1BB or telephone Corby (0536) 402551 (Ext 1106).

Closing date: 15 June 1988.

Applications from Disabled people are welcome. 50P

GOHSE
FINANCE OFFICER

£12,000 p.a. plus car

GOHSE, the specialist Health Care Union, which represents over 25,000 members across all grades in the Health and Social Services, has a vacancy for a Finance Officer.

We are looking for a high calibre individual who is able to display leadership, drive, innovation and enthusiasm. Motivation of staff within the Directorate and an ability to communicate at all levels will be essential. The successful candidate will report to the General Secretary and will be responsible for the overall control of the Directorate's financial, investments, properties and pension fund administration. The postholder will also be expected to draft policy documents and prepare briefing papers on financial and related matters for the Union's National Executive and Finance and Organisation Committees etc. Applicants should be professionally qualified and a member of a recognised accountancy body. The successful applicant will have had a minimum of five years financial and administrative experience in a senior managerial position.

We offer a competitive salary in addition to other benefits which include 6 weeks annual leave, 12 public holidays and membership of a contributory pension scheme.

If you are confident that you can meet the demands of this challenging role please write for a Job Description and application form for The General Secretary, Confederation of Health Service Employees, One, Rouse, High Street, Banstead, Surrey SM7 2LB marking your application 'Private and Confidential'.

Closing date for applications: 10th June 1988.

GOHSE is an Equal Opportunity Employer and considers all job applications strictly on their merits. In addition, we positively welcome applications from women, black and other ethnic minority people and people with disabilities where they are currently underrepresented within the organisation.

HAMPSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY
FINANCIAL MANAGER

Salary to £16,500 pa

Hampshire Health Authority is a general London Teaching District which employs approximately 5,000 staff and has a turnover of approximately £80 million.

Reporting to the Director of Finance, the senior appointment involves the provision of financial advice to the Management Board for Mental Health Services throughout the District. In particular, the appointee will be involved in the re-organisation of services in response to the Care in the Community initiative.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate sound experience in management accounting and closely should have made progress towards or completed a recognised accountancy qualification. The post offers exceptional career potential. Other benefits include salary up to £16,500 pa plus the opportunity to participate in the Authority's Car Leasing and Partnership Mortgage Schemes. Further details can be obtained by telephoning 01-744 4001 (24 hour answering machine).

Candidates who wish to discuss the post informally should contact Mr T. Elze, Director of Finance, on 01-744 0500 ext. 3363.

West Devon Borough Council.
Assistant Treasurer
(Revenues)
Up to £16,329

Applications are invited for this new post from professionally qualified accountants with good management ability, a positive attitude towards computerised working and proven practical knowledge and experience of local authority finance.

The post ranks second in the Department and the postholder will be responsible for the Council's capital budget together with general supervision of those Sections dealing with Housing Rents/Benefits and Rating. The successful applicant will be required to play a major role in the implementation of new legislation. Committee attendance will be required and as well as good communicative skills applicants should possess a sound knowledge of housing finance.

West Devon is ideally situated with both Dartmoor and the coast within easy reach. The post is based in new offices within the attractive market town of Tavistock.

Additional information, application forms and a job description may be obtained from: The Treasurer, Clworthy Park, Drake Road, Tavistock, Devon PL19 0EZ. Tel: Tavistock (0822) 015011 Ext. 2

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

TECHNICAL



ENGINEER/SCIENTIST ASSEMBLY AUTOMATION DIVISION OF MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is the largest research institution in Australia. The Organisation is largely Government funded and performs research and development in about 100 laboratories to support Australian industry.

With some 120 staff located in laboratories in Melbourne, Adelaide and Sydney, the Division of Manufacturing Technology carries out research and development related to the manufacture of discrete products. Activities are concentrated in the areas of materials engineering, electro-technics and integrated manufacturing. The Sydney Laboratory is working in the fields of industrial lasers and flexible automation. Close involvement with industry is a feature of the Division's work, and much of the research is of a collaborative nature.

It is proposed to undertake a major program of research in assembly automation, with investigations planned in areas such as design for assembly, economic appraisal, process planning, equipment and facilities design, robot programming, and permanent physics. An engineer or scientist is sought to lead this research effort. The appointee would be expected to develop research strategies, based on technical and economic appraisals of Australian industry needs and opportunities, initiate collaborative research projects, and lead a research team of 4-5 people. Skills in the development of software for planning and control of manufacturing assembly processes would be highly regarded.

Applicants should have a higher degree, preferably a PhD, or equivalent qualifications, with substantial experience in flexible automation and manufacturing information technology, and demonstrated ability in research. Experience in production industry is highly desirable.

This position is for appointment on an indefinite basis with Australian Government superannuation benefits. Salary will be in the range \$A36,734 - \$49,569 (Senior Research Scientist/Principal Research Scientist). Applicants stating relevant personal particulars including details of qualifications and experience, the names of two professional referees, and quoting reference number A3962, should be directed to:

Officer-in-Charge, Sydney Laboratory
CSIRO Division of Manufacturing Technology
P.O. Box 218
LINDFIELD NSW 2070
AUSTRALIA

By June 30, 1988

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LEGAL

ASSISTANT SECRETARY (LEGAL)

Salary - up to £17,970 (Under Review)
+ Car Loan Facilities
Please quote Post Number - 006
Could you meet the CHALLENGE

An exciting career opportunity has arisen for a Solicitor (the last two postholders have been appointed to Chief Officer positions) with extensive local innovative authority. The job demands leadership - at the head of a professional team, providing all legal services for the Council and its Committees. This third-tier post has the responsibility for the day to day control of the Legal Section of the Department, and it offers an opportunity to join a progressive local authority with a wide range of legal work.

The successful applicant will be dedicated and enthusiastic individual, with a proven track record, able to meet the challenge of this post.

If you would like a preliminary chat regarding this vacancy then please telephone the current postholder, Nigel Howells, on extension 203.

Stafford is an attractive area with reasonably priced housing and excellent communication links. Benefits include modern offices with restaurant facilities, relocation package and the possibility of temporary housing.

Application form and job description are available from:
Personnel Section, Chief Executive/Secretary's Department, Civic Offices, Riverside, Stafford. ST16 2AQ
Telephone: (0755) 223181
(Extension 216). Closing Date: 1st June 1988. Commencing will be on 1st July 1988.



Stafford Borough Council
An Equal Opportunities Employer



Wyre Forest District Council

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AS THE TREES"

ASSISTANT SOLICITOR

(Re-Advertisement)

£14,825 - £15,921

WE HAVE A 14 STRONG LEGAL TEAM WITH:

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- a high pressure environment calling for constructive, imaginative and effective advice.
- a high expectation that the challenges on offer will prove exciting and demanding for the right person.

YOU MUST HAVE:

- a fair and commitment which will get you noticed.
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- at least one year's post qualification experience either in local government, private practice or industry.

YOU CAN FIND US:

in very attractive countryside in the north-east of the County of Hereford and Worcester, yet within striking distance of all the amenities of the West Midlands.

YOUR NEXT MOVE:

- is to contact Walter Delfin or Muriel Fellows on (0582) 820505 Extension 2704 or 2705 for more information about the area and the job.

- Conditions include Casual Car User Allowance and a scheme of reimbursement of relocation expenses in appropriate cases.

Application forms and further details are available from the Personnel Officer, Wyre Forest District Council, Civic Centre, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs. DY13 8AL. Tel: (0582) 820505 Ext 2705.

CLOSING DATE FOR THE RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: 14th June 1988

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

HERON

Heron International's growth has been achieved through the recruitment and selection of some of the finest financial, legal and business talent available.

To strengthen the Corporate Finance team, we are seeking an experienced Corporate Counsel.

As well as offering personal professional advice, his/her role involves managing external advisers who include the best international law firms. Candidates must therefore be technically competent, interested in our businesses and able to work successfully in multi-disciplinary teams.

The successful applicant is likely to have 7-10 years experience in general corporate law in significant sized projects, gained in one of the major practices, a Bank or in commerce. US/Continental experience would be desirable as would some competence in European languages.

For such a senior position, we are expecting to meet salary expectations of £35-40,000 and the usual package demands. Applicants with a full CV (including a photograph) should write to:

A H Fell, Director of Human Resources,

Heron International

Heron House, 19 Marylebone Road,
London NW1 5JL

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Amdahl has become synonymous with technical innovation, commercial success and a strong commitment to the future within the Computing Sector and like any major organisation we rely heavily on the informed advice and accurate input of our Legal and Commercial Support resources.

We are currently looking to recruit 2 experienced Contract Managers to work from Manchester/Birmingham and West London. Working closely with our sales force, you'll be drafting and negotiating major contracts with both suppliers and clients - many of whom represent the elite of British industry and commerce.

The position will demand a thorough understanding of contractual and legal procedures, exemplary communicative and negotiation skills and the ability to quickly forge credibility at the highest level.

Bearing this in mind, it's likely that you're already working in a similar position and had at least 5 years legal experience within a sales environment. A recognised qualification and/or a law degree would be a distinct advantage.

You'll receive a highly competitive salary, executive company car, comprehensive benefits (including relocation where necessary) and enjoy working for a company firmly committed to promotion from within.

So for more details contact Sarah Reilly on (01) 573 7383. Alternatively, send your curriculum vitae to her at Amdahl (U.K.) Ltd, Viking House, 29-31 Lampion Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 1JD.

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WILTSHIRE MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE

Senior Court Clerk

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or Court Clerk

(C/PAD 5 - 8, £11,025 - £12,688 per annum)

Barristers, Solicitors or Diploma Holders - vacancies exist in the Salisbury Justices' Clerk's Office, which has 2 P.S.D.s.

You will play a positive role in giving advice and guidance to the Justices' professional bodies, the public and other staff, with administrative duties kept to a minimum.

Salary dependent upon qualifications and experience, with opportunities for rapid salary progression.

For further information, or to arrange a visit, please telephone the Justices' Clerk's Office, Salisbury (0722 333223).

Personal expenses payable in appropriate cases.

Application forms available from the Clerk of the Magistrates' Courts Committee, County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 6JH (Tel: 02214 3841 Ext. 3058) and should be returned by 6th June 1988. Please quote reference WCCO/59/257.

NEWPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT

SENIOR SOLICITOR

Salary up to £15,507 per annum

Newport has become a prime location for new economic development and investment. It has an ambitious five year programme to further enhance this image and central to this are plans to radically redevelop and improve the frontage of the River Usk.

THE PERSON

- We are looking for a solicitor or barrister to join the project team.

THE JOB

- Fixed term appointment for a minimum of two years
- Work on the preparation and promotion of a Parliamentary Bill to be introduced in the 1989/90 session
- Drafting, liaison work and negotiation with a wide range of interested people and organisations.

Attractive Relocation Package includes:-

- Assistance with Removal Expenses
- Temporary Housing Accommodation in appropriate cases
- Attractive area in which to work and live.

For further information and an application form, please contact the Personnel Section, Newport Borough Council, Civic Centre, Newport, Gwent, NP9 4UR. Telephone: (0633) 244491 Ext 3687. The closing date for applications - 13 June 1988.

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Solicitors require
**DOMESTIC
CONVEYANCER**

Salary negotiable

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Victoria Rd, Hove,
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PROSECUTIONS Solicitors. An opportunity has arisen in our Commercial/Contractual Department for an experienced lawyer. The candidate should have: A graduate degree in international law and machine broadcasting; experience in Canada and eligible for admission this year in England; a working knowledge of French and a willingness to travel; Canadian Governmental experience. The duties will include identification and development of new sources of business in Canada. Salary will be commensurate with skills and experience and the candidate should be willing to relocate to the near 17th's main office in Hove, Sussex. Applications should send a full CV to: The Staff Partner, Penningtons, Litton Court, 605 Bury Lane, Hove, East Sussex BN1 3JH.

SOLICITORS. Law firm. Legal staff. We have first class premises both for London and nationwide. Visit in confidence. Chancery Legal Appt. 01 242 1281 (evening). Law Personnel 01 242 1281 (evening after hrs.).

Faculty of Social Studies School of Law

Lecturer in Law

(Reg No. L163/AX)

Salary: £11,286 - £17,115 (Inclusive)

Applications are invited for one post of Lecturer in Law to commence duties on 1 September 1988. Applicants should hold a good law degree conferred by GNA or a British university and should preferably have a higher degree or a professional legal qualification.

The Faculty encourages access and non-standard entry students on its courses and recruits many students from black and other ethnic minority communities. Applicants should therefore be sympathetic with PNL's aim to develop as a multi-cultural and multi-racial institution.

The person appointed will be required to teach Employment Law (on PNL's LLB degree course) and, normally, two other legal subjects.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Personnel Office, The Polytechnic of North London, Holloway Road, London N7 8DB. Telephone 01-608 8913 (24 hour answering service).

Closing date for receipt of applications: 10 June 1988

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer and seek to recruit from the whole community.

P-N-L
THE POLYTECHNIC OF
NORTH LONDON

Continued on next page

The Deed

Assistant Solicitors up to £14625

Are you looking for a role offering exposure across the full legal spectrum - with emphasis on advocacy, committee work and the provision of general legal advice.

Our Environmental and Personal Services Divisions are looking for newly admitted or experienced Solicitors with an interest in Local Government. Further details are available from Mr. C.J. Rolfe, Assistant Chief Legal Officer (Personal Services), Telephone 0384 456000 Ext. 3330 or Mr. G. Collins, Assistant Chief Legal Officer (Environmental Services) 0384 453360.

Legal Assistant up to £12075

Experienced Conveyancing Assistant required to undertake a wide variety of property transactions including sales, purchases and commercial leases. Three years' relevant experience and the ability to work with the minimum of supervision is required. Please phone Mr. T. Cassidy, Principal Legal Assistant (Conveyancing) 0384 456000 Ext. 3310.

Application forms and further details from Legal Services Department, Dudley MBC, 3 St. James's Road, Dudley, West Midlands, to be returned by 9th June.



CONSE
FINANCE OFFICE

LEGAL MANAGER

Treasure

01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

Albright & Wilson

Commercial Lawyer

Albright & Wilson are a major international chemical company with manufacturing facilities in the UK, the Continent, North America, and the Far East. Their total sales are well in excess of £500 million a year. They now wish to appoint a commercial lawyer to join the legal department at their Head Office in Central London.

Candidates should be solicitors or barristers, aged 27 to 32 years, with commercial experience gained either in industry or in private practice.

Virtually all the group's legal work (with the exception of litigation) is done in-house. The emphasis is on commercial law,

including the sale and purchase of companies and businesses, joint ventures (mostly with overseas partners), patent and knowhow licences, agency/distributorship agreements, employment law, etc. The department also supervises the legal function for overseas subsidiaries, becoming directly involved particularly in joint ventures in the Far East and the USA. Some foreign travel will therefore be required.

A generous salary is offered, plus car and other benefits, reflecting the seniority and responsibility of the position.

For details contact Sonya Rayner or send her a copy of your c.v.

Chambers

Recruitment

74 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET
Telex: 8951182 (01) 606 9371 Fax (01) 600 1793

Consultants

Staveley Industries

to £30,000 + bonus + car

Staveley Industries Plc, a major British company with activities ranging from measurement equipment to engineering, and from minerals to services for the construction industry, is seeking to recruit a Commercial Lawyer for their Head Office in Croydon. The Group's turnover is £200 million, and it has about 5,000 employees.

Reporting to the Group Legal Adviser, the successful candidate will handle legal work arising within the Group world-wide, including company

purchases and acquisitions, intellectual property rights, joint ventures, competition law, construction and engineering contracts, and sales of goods and services. You will be advising senior management, and the ability to take a commercial view on all issues is therefore essential.

Candidates should be solicitors or barristers, preferably (but not necessarily) from industry, aged mid-20s to mid-30s.

For details ring Sonya Rayner, or write to her with your c.v.

Chambers

Recruitment

74 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9ET
Telex: 8951182 (01) 606 9371 Fax (01) 600 1793

Consultants

The Friendly Alternative

If you are ambitious, care about where you work and wish to retain your sense of humour, read on.

Clyde & Co. are a City firm with 57 Partners, all but two of whom are under 45. The atmosphere is informal and the partnerships early.

We handle contentious and non-contentious matters for clients who are chiefly engaged in international trade. The work is important and intellectually challenging.

We need young solicitors in both litigation and company/commercial areas. Find out more about this opportunity from our recruitment consultant Mrs. Indira Brown, 6 Westminster Palace Gardens, Artillery Row, London SW1P 1RL. Telephone 01-222 5555, or, in the evening between 8.30pm - 9.30pm on 01-480 6666.

CLYDE & CO

COMMERCIAL LAWYER

Up to £19,000 + financial sector benefits

Although deregulation is more commonly associated with the City's Big Bang, the pervasive climate of development and diversification extends equally to the business activities of building societies. As a leader among such organisations, the Woolwich is particularly keen to acquire astute legal advice during this watershed in our development.

We now seek a Solicitor to advise on a wide range of issues (which may include consumer credit, mortgage lending, company, banking and financial services law) and take special responsibility for the Society's investment and loan products, which will include the drafting of documentation, advice on advertising and on the development of new concepts in both fields.

Although experience in any of the above areas would be useful, more important is an enthusiastic attitude and a willingness to work as part of a committed team.

In return we can offer a remuneration package which includes an attractive salary, negotiable according to your experience, together with benefits that include concessional mortgage facility, BUPA, a contributory pension scheme, life assurance cover, generous relocation assistance where applicable and, for those with three or more years' post qualification experience, a Society car.

This is an excellent opportunity to play an influential role within a major financial institution during a crucial period of change.

Please write with full cv to: Martin A. Plummer, Personnel Manager, Woolwich Equitable Building Society, Equitable House, London SE18 6AB.

We are an equal opportunities employer.



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY LAWYERS

Our client, a major Central London practice, is a recognised leader in the field of commercial property work. The department is currently enjoying unparalleled expansion and prides itself on the expert advice given to an increasingly prestigious client base.

This success has now created a number of superb opportunities for young lawyers at every level seeking rapid career development in a highly stimulating and friendly environment.

An extensive range of property transactions is undertaken by the department, including all aspects of major developments and redevelopments.

Applications are invited not only from Central London Solicitors, but also from those with major provincial practices, or Barristers with property experience gained in leading chambers.

The rewards and prospects for career development are extremely attractive.

For further details please write in the strictest confidence to John Cullen, 16-18 New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 6AU or telephone on 01-583 0073 during business hours or on 01-874 2160 evenings and weekends.

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WILDE SAPTE

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Wilde Sapte - which has served its City clients for over 200 years - has grown rapidly in recent years. It now has a total staff of well over 300.

Our growth and continuing success have been built on high standards and our commitment to providing the best service at all times for our clients.

To meet the expanding needs of the firm, we are seeking young lawyers - particularly those qualifying this Autumn - who are willing to respond to the demands and challenges of a modern, commercial practice with drive and enthusiasm.

There are excellent opportunities in all Departments of the firm. We are looking for people who are bright and keen; fluency in a foreign language (particularly Japanese, French, German, Spanish and Italian) would be useful.

COMPANY AND COMMERCIAL

The Department, which is divided into five groups each headed by three or four partners, handles the whole range of corporate and commercial work including banking and asset finance, securities and regulatory matters, M & A (both public and private), joint ventures and competition law. Many more lawyers are needed for the Department, both newly qualified and those with experience.

PROPERTY

Three groups, each staffed by ten lawyers, handle a wide range of commercial property transactions including development, acquisitions, disposals, landlord and tenant and funding as well as construction and planning. New solicitors are required to supplement each group.

LITIGATION

We have over 50 lawyers, organised into four operating groups, conducting litigation and arbitration for clients whose business and commercial activities include banking, insurance, aviation and shipping. The Department also deals with a considerable amount of insolvency and employment work. We need to add substantially to our team.

CORPORATE TAX

This Department advises clients on all aspects of UK tax legislation. It works very closely with the Company and Commercial Department on the structuring of complex financial and corporate transactions - usually of international scope. Applications are welcomed from candidates who have the commitment and intellectual ability to excel in this field.

PRIVATE CLIENT AND TRUST

This rapidly growing Department provides a full range of legal services to wealthy private individuals, to trusts and to charities, with the emphasis on personal tax, wills, trusts and conveyancing.

Salary and benefits are highly competitive and prospects are excellent for the right candidate.

Please write with a full CV (specifying in which of the above Departments you would prefer to work) to:-

Malcolm Glover
Wilde Sapte
Queensbridge House
60 Upper Thames Street
London
EC4V 3BD

QUEENSBIDGE HOUSE
LONDON EC4V 3BD
TELEPHONE (01) 236 3050

200 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK NY 10160
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ENTERTAINMENT LAWYER

U.S. and international entertainment company require lawyer for international headquarters in London.

3-4 years entertainment experience preferred. Competitive salary and benefits. Ability to travel essential.

Box No. B65

LEICESTER

Solicitor required for Medium Sized Practice to assist with development of Commercial Work both General and conveyancing. Opportunity also to assist in Commercial Litigation. Relevant experience since qualifying and/or in articles essential.

Salary according to age and experience but will be competitive.

Partnership prospects for the right person.

Applications in writing with CV to:

Kennedy Leslie
HOLYOAK & CO, Solicitor
6 Peacock Lane, St Martin's, Leicester LE1 5PS
Tel: 0533-517181

Law Report May 24 1988 Queen's Bench Divisional Court

DPP cannot lawfully delegate to non-lawyers

Regina v Director of Public Prosecutions, Ex parte Association of First Division Civil Servants

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Kennedy
(Judgment May 23)

The Director of Public Prosecutions could not lawfully delegate to any person not being a crown prosecutor the decision whether in any criminal proceedings (i) the evidence was sufficient to proceed and/or (ii) the prosecution was in the public interest.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an application by the Association of First Division Civil Servants (FDA) for judicial review of a decision of the Director of Public Prosecutions that non-legally qualified staff employed by the Crown Prosecution Service could review certain categories of cases in order to decide whether the evidence was sufficient to proceed and whether the prosecution was in the public interest.

Mr Thomas Scott Baker, QC and Mr Philip Havers for the FDA; Mr John Laws for the DPP.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, giving the judgment of the court, said that since the implementation of section 3(2) of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 it had been the duty of the DPP as head of the Crown Prosecution Service to take over the conduct of almost all criminal proceedings in England and Wales instigated by the police.

A departmental committee recommended that most summary offences should be screened by executive officers who were not qualified lawyers. He should check the file to see whether it was complete and review the evidence with the object of deciding whether it was sufficient to proceed and if the prosecution would be in the public interest.

If all was in order the case would proceed. If there was insufficient evidence the case screener would refer to a crown prosecutor for a decision as to whether a decision to discontinue would be appropriate.

The report was accepted and implemented despite objections from the FDA. The FDA sought a declaration that the DPP could not lawfully delegate to non-

lawyers the tasks of decision making which it was proposed the case screeners should undertake.

Although well aware of the possible effect upon the DPP's present resources with which he had to discharge his responsibility to manage a new and in some ways struggling service, the court nevertheless felt driven to accept the FDA's submissions.

In the judgment of the court the DPP's decision was ultra vires because it could result in many cases not being dealt with by the Crown Prosecution Service in accordance with the Act.

The DPP's duty was to take over the conduct of criminal proceedings (subject to the exceptions provided by section 3(2)). "Conduct" included the taking of any steps in relation to the proceedings. Crown prosecutors had the powers of the DPP as to the conduct of proceedings. Those powers were not given to any other members of the DPP's staff.

The DPP had organized his functions in the conduct of proceedings in such a way as to provide an "initial acceptance

review" to decide whether prosecutions instigated by the police should be accepted or not. In allowing the decision to accept certain cases to be taken only by the non-legally qualified case screener and without reference to a crown prosecutor the DPP acted unlawfully.

The effect of the statute was that only lawyers could do the work which the DPP's scheme envisaged that executive officers would perform. Furthermore, pleas of guilty by post in some of those cases might result in a crown prosecutor never having conducted the case at all.

The court did not regret arriving at such a conclusion since that one of the main purposes for which the 1985 Act was enacted was to bring an independent legal mind to bear on each prosecution.

If an executive officer could decide to allow a prosecution to continue with the result that because the accused pleaded guilty the case never went to a crown prosecutor, that, in the court's view, frustrated that very important purpose of the Act and although in the context of

the Crown Prosecution Service's workload that case might be insignificant, it was to the individual who was accused a matter of great concern.

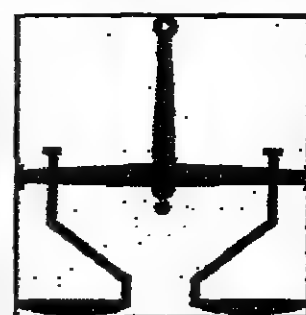
Despite the persuasive arguments of Mr Laws it seemed to the court that one could not wholly divorce a decision to discontinue from a decision to allow a prosecution to proceed.

To a large extent they were two sides of the same coin, as was implicitly recognized in paragraph 4 of the DPP's Code for Crown Prosecutors which envisaged that crown prosecutors considering the "institution or continuation of criminal proceedings".

Furthermore, without going into detail, it seemed to the court that parts of the Code Screening Manual to which the court was referred illustrated how an executive officer acting as a case screener would inevitably have to undertake the tasks which Parliament must have envisaged that a lawyer would perform.

Solicitors: Russell Jones & Walker, Treasury Solicitor.

Divided we stand



LEGAL BRIEF

Two hundred years ago at the trial of Tom Paine, Thomas Erskine, the greatest of advocates, declared: "I will forever - at all hazards - assert the dignity, independence and integrity of the English Bar without which impartial justice, the most valuable part of the English constitution, can have no existence."

He spoke of the English Bar, not of the English attorneys. There was then a great gulf between them. The Bar was a corps d'élite, all of whose members were beloved to honourable societies. The attorneys were of lesser standing, without any society to discipline them or to look to their conduct. Samuel Johnson said at that time that he did not care to speak ill of any man behind his back, but he believed the gentleman was an attorney.

It was in those days that the superior court judges gave to the Bar their exclusive right of audience - no advocate could appear before them unless he was a member of the Bar. The judges justified it by "ancient usage", and it has been carried through from that day to this. It was affirmed recently in a case concerning *The Times v. ABC* (1986), 1 QB 536. A libel action had been settled and an agreed statement was to be read out in open court. The *Times* wanted a solicitor to read it; the judge said no, and so did the Court of Appeal. They said the Bar had an exclusive right of audience even in such a case. It could be altered only by all the judges collectively and not by a single judge on his own.

In this right still to remain exclusive to the Bar? The case for abolition is strong. The "ancient usage" arose when the structure of society and the courts were very different from today. In those days all major disputes were heard and decided by the superior courts of law. Now they are heard by countless other tribunals, commercial disputes, for example, with large sums involved, are decided by arbitration where the Bar has no exclusive right of audience. There are numerous statutory tribunals where solicitors often appear. There is even the criminal court where solicitors, in some limited cases, have a right of audience.

The structure of society has changed too. In my early days, the Bar was relatively small in numbers and was pre-occupied with legal skills and advocacy. Now the Bar numbers 5,000 and the solicitors 47,000, many of whom are equal to their counterparts at the Bar in specialized fields of law, and who would be so in the courts if they were given the opportunity. Many are well fitted to be judges, if invited.

So is there any reason for continuing this "ancient usage"? There is, and it lies in the difference in the roles of a barrister and solicitor. The barrister's duty of a barrister is to assist the court in the administration of justice, even if it is contrary to the interest of his client. But a solicitor is bound by contract to do all he

can honestly to win, whether or not it accords with or detracts from the justice of the case. These differences are shown in many ways, beginning with dress. The judge's robes betoken dignity and authority. The barrister's wig and gown betoken learning and courtesy (even the most junior is addressed as "my learned friend"). The solicitor's plain suit betokens nothing. If a solicitor should dress up in a wig and gown and pass himself off as a barrister, and seek to address the judge, the judge would not only refuse to hear him but might well commit him for contempt or, at any rate, report him to the Law Society.

A barrister cannot sue the client for his fee, but a solicitor can - because in theory the barrister comes not for money reward, but to assist the court. The obligation to pay him is an obligation in honour, not in law. It was the tradition of centuries that what he received from the client was a gift or honorarium, and not a stipulated wage. To this day at the back of his robe there is still the flap of the little pocket where the client could discreetly place his gratuity.

Because a barrister has the exclusive right of audience he cannot pick or choose his clients, but a solicitor can. A barrister is bound to accept a brief for any man who comes before the courts, no matter how undeserving or unpopular his cause, and must defend him to the end. A solicitor can say: "I do not like your politics or the colour of your hair. I am not going to act for you."

A barrister is not liable for negligence in conducting a case in the courts, whereas a solicitor is, or may be. The reasoning is that the barrister must be able to do his duty fearlessly and independently. He has time and again to choose between his duty

to his client and his duty to the court. This is a conflict often difficult to resolve, and he should not be forever looking over his shoulder in case the client should sue him. If he were liable for negligence, he would be tempted to ask every question suggested by the client, however irrelevant to call every witness desired by the client, however useless; to take every point, however bad; to prolong the trial indefinitely, in case the client should be aggrieved and turn round on him and sue him for negligence. On those grounds the House of Lords held in *Rondel v. Worsley* (1969) 1 AC 191 that he was not liable for negligence.

A solicitor is employed by his client under a contract. It is his contractual duty to use care in every part of his work. If he should fail to do so when conducting a case in court, he is or should be liable in damages. Such is clear in principle. Some law lords would give him a small exception when he is actually on his feet in court, but I can see no basis for it, and the authorities are against it. If a solicitor doing a case himself in the county court, took a proof from a material witness but by some oversight failed to get him to court or, when in court, failed to call him, he would clearly be liable in damages. But if the solicitor instructed counsel and sent him the proofs - and then the counsel by similar oversight failed to call him - the barrister would not be liable. The solicitor is protected because he instructed counsel; counsel is protected because he is instructed by the barrister's exclusive right of audience in the High Court. They are the foundation on which we have built a strong and independent Bar, fearless and courageous, ready to take on any case however unpopular, and doing so in the interest of justice itself and not for the sake of making money. If there were fusion of the two branches of the profession that strength and independence would be gone. So do not let us have fusion. Enough exceptions have been created already; do not let any more be made, lest in the long run the Bar lose the strength and independence which is its glory and has served the cause of justice so well.

Lord Denning

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Refusal of legal representation not perverse

Regina v Board of Visitors of HM Remand Centre, Risley, Ex parte Draper

Before Lord Justice Kerr, Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Nicholls
(Judgment April 27)

A decision of a board of visitors to refuse to grant legal representation could not be said to be perverse when the charge had a straightforward factual basis.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by Charles Draper from the decision of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Lloyd and Mr Justice Mann) on July 27, 1987, to refuse Mr Draper's application for judicial review of the decision of the Risley Board of Visitors.

The Prison Rules (SI 1964 No 388) provides by rule 47 "A prisoner shall be guilty of an offence against discipline if he... (20) in any way offends against good order and discipline."

Mr Brian Leveson, QC and Mr Timothy Owen for Mr Draper; Mr Guy Sankey for the board of visitors.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said the matter arose out of an incident between September 29 and October 3, 1986, during which time there was a large-scale disturbance at Risley Remand Centre.

During the course of the disturbance a barricade was erected on the building and in particular a window was

smashed in order to gain access to the roof.

At the end of the protest, at least 18 inmates were charged under rule 47, paragraph 20 of the 1964 Rules with the same offence subject only to the time spent on the roof.

The particulars of Mr Draper's charge were that: "At 1100 hours did take part in erecting a barricade on B2 landing, damaged prison property and gained access to the roof until 1500 hours on September 29."

Mr Draper sought judicial review of the decision of the board finding him guilty of the charge, although it was right to point out he had pleaded guilty.

Two points were argued on

behalf of Mr Draper. First, that the decision of the board not to grant legal representation was unreasonable in the *Wednesbury* sense (1948) 1 KB 223 that it was a decision which no reasonable board could have reached. Second, that the charge was bad for duplicity.

With regard to the first point, Mr Draper had been asked if he wanted to apply for legal representation and had answered "Yes".

The board refused to grant legal representation as they concluded the charge had a straightforward factual basis.

His Lordship found it impossible to conclude that the decision of the board was perverse. The matter involved no legal

complications of a kind which would render a decision to refuse legal representation one which no reasonable board could have reached.

Nor could it be said that the charge was bad for duplicity, since the charge was part and parcel of the same incident.

The barricade was erected to prevent the prison officers gaining access, the damage to the property was for the purpose of obtaining materials for the barricade and the object of the incident was a roof-top protest.

Lord Justice Dillon delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Nicholls agreed.

Solicitors: R. M. Broudie & Co, Liverpool; Treasury Solicitor.

No duty to use benefit only for rent

Director of Public Prosecutions v. Haskins

There was no legal obligation upon a recipient of housing benefit to use that benefit exclusively to the Bar? The case for abolition is strong. The "ancient usage" arose when the structure of society and the courts were very different from today. In those days all major disputes were heard and decided by the superior courts of law. Now they are heard by countless other tribunals, commercial disputes, for example, with large sums involved, are decided by arbitration where the Bar has no exclusive right of audience. There are numerous statutory tribunals where solicitors often appear. There is even the criminal court where solicitors, in some limited cases, have a right of audience.

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Lord Denning

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Fresh tax appeal hearing after miscarriage of justice only

Aspinall v Greenwood (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Mr Justice Knox
(Judgment April 29)

An application by a taxpayer to have his income tax appeal remitted to the general commissioners for a fresh hearing should only be granted if it was shown that a miscarriage of justice had occurred. Such an order should not be made if its effect was merely to allow the taxpayer a "second bite at the cherry".

Where the case stated was ambiguous so that doubt arose as to which category the taxpayer's application fell into, the

matter should go back to the commissioners for clarification.

Mr Justice Knox so held in the Chancery Division in sending back to the Liverpool general commissioners the case stated by them at the request of the taxpayer, Mr Richard Aspinall.

Mr James Reid, QC and Mr Adrian Kirsten for the taxpayer; Mr Alan Moses for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that the case stated was ambiguous as to whether the taxpayer had requested an adjournment of his appeal to allow his witness to be brought from prison to give evidence, or whether he

had agreed for the hearing to continue without that witness being present.

Clearly if at the hearing the taxpayer, being prejudiced by the witness's absence, had decided not to ask for an adjournment and had agreed to his case proceeding, then granting his application would be to give him a second bite at the cherry.

Thus the matter should be remitted for the commissioners to state what had happened as regards any application made to them by the taxpayer for an adjournment.

Solicitors: Ross & Co, Manchester; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

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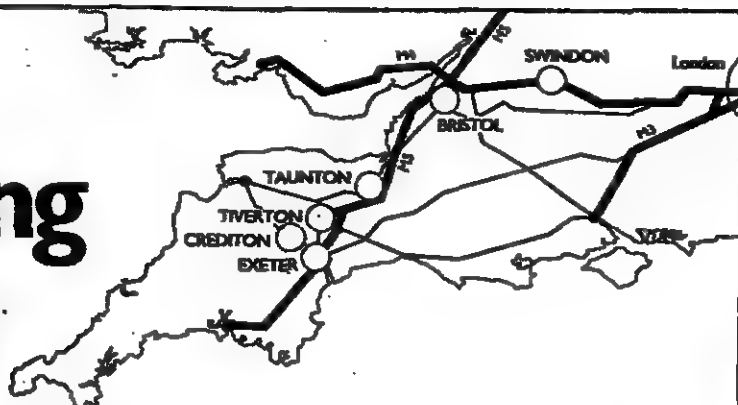
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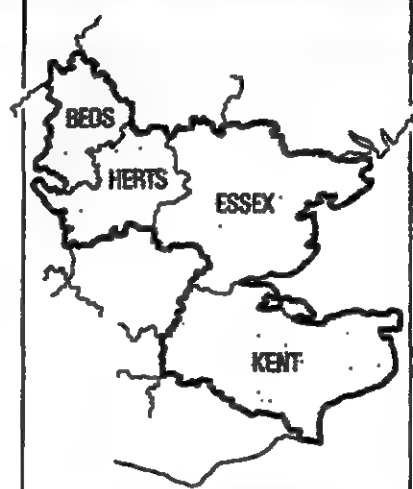
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LITIGATION

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British police fear trouble over tickets loophole

By John Goodbody

British police fear that the sale of tickets on the day of the matches in next month's European Football Championship in West Germany will hamper efforts to control potential troublemakers.

About 8,000 supporters have received tickets from the Football Association after the governing body had compared the names of applicants with its own records of convicted hooligans.

But now the police have joined the British Government in expressing concern that other groups will travel to the Continent hoping to buy tickets which the West German organizers insist on putting on sale.

McGregor, the assistant chief constable of the British Transport Police, yesterday

met Government and football officials in a final planning meeting about the European Championship, which begins on June 10 and contains at least two potentially combustible games — against the Republic of Ireland on June 12 and The Netherlands on June 15.

The behaviour of the English fans during the Championship will determine whether UEFA readmits its clubs to the European competitions from which they have been banned since the Heysel Stadium disaster in May 1985.

McGregor, the European Community's permanent correspondent in Britain, said that experience showed that between 200 and 500-plus supporters would make the trip without tickets, although there was no evidence pointing to whom these individuals were going to be.

On March 31, 1987, Hermann Neuburger, the president of the organizing committee, told *The Times*: "The security authorities will liaise and if the Football Association warn us that there may be trouble, then we will refuse to sell any tickets on the day of the games in which England are involved."

However, despite appeals from the British Government and the FA, the organizers are still going ahead with sales.

The two loopholes in the distribution of tickets are the availability of tickets on the day of matches and also the sales to service personnel, stationed in West Germany.

The segregation ruling agreed by the EC governments cannot therefore be strictly carried out.

The service personnel have been able to obtain tickets in West Germany through a voucher system, but McGregor admitted: "In the past there has been little or no trouble caused by military personnel. But there have been incidents when arrested fans have claimed they were serving in the forces."

German police officers have made two visits to England to see how the British police cope with large numbers of fans.

McGregor said: "There are two important elements in dealing with English fans. These are the control of alcohol and the need to be fair but firm. But it has been stressed that problems are just as likely to take place between the two cities in a small village as in the cities or stadiums themselves."

Plan to lift England on wings of adventure

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Bobby Robson has again shuffled his pack. Having altered half of his England side for last Saturday's fixture against Scotland, he has made four more changes for tonight's match against Colombia at Wembley. He is not throwing away unwanted cards, merely examining his hand before he makes his final choice.

Anderson, McMahon, Waddle, and Wright are the individuals to benefit from the policy less than a week before the European Championship squad must be announced. Steven, Stevens, Watson and Webb are put to one side temporarily. "It doesn't change the formation too much," Robson said yesterday. "Although Waddle does a slightly different job from Steven."

In selecting both Barnes and Waddle, Robson is again attempting to lift England high on the wings of adventure in West Germany, the idea never left the ground but he has reinforced the pair in between them by bringing in McMahon, who will be making his home debut.

Bryan Robson has completed an unexpectedly swift recovery from a back sprain

Advance bookings for tonight's match against Colombia have been so disappointing that FA officials fear the poorest attendance ever at an England international match at Wembley. Only 23,600 supporters saw England play Wales in February, 1983, and ticket sales for tonight's match have struggled to reach 10,000.

and England's manager harbours no doubts about choosing his captain. "He has missed too many games for me already. I think that if he's fit, he should play."

Although Anderson has "a chronic heel condition" he returns at right back. Protected throughout the season by Manchester United, he will continue to be rested in between internationals. Robson admits that "he would struggle to play three games in a week but he won't break down in West Germany."

Wright, who was rested because of injury at the weekend, is recalled as expected but alongside the uncertain Adams rather than Watson. Woods, another underdog who might have been offered a place in the starting line-up, is kept among the reserves who will be officially announced today.

Robson's lone misgiving about the 1-0 victory over Scotland was "the failure to make more of our possession. We were stacks ahead of them in that respect." The imbalance is likely to be corrected.

The Scots resembled a weaker version of the Republic of Ireland. During the forthcoming rehearsal, the South Americans will fill the different role that will probably be assumed by England's second opponents in the championship, the Netherlands, and other nations they could meet in the later stages, such as Denmark and Italy.

The central defensive partnership, which was put under scarcely any pressure three days ago, is sure to be stretched.

The back four must, with the assistance of a midfield pair, who could be outnumbered, learn to read and adjust to a game that is foreign to them. Manchester United, as England's manager pointed out, were taught a similar lesson by AC Milan at Old Trafford last week.

ENGLAND TEAM: P. Shilton (Derby); K. Sanderson (Manchester United); K. Sanderson (Aston Villa); S. McMahon (Liverpool); M. Wright (Derby); A. Adams (Aston Villa); B. Robson (Manchester United); C. Waddle (Tottenham); P. Bescoby (Liverpool); G. Hargrove (Sheff Wed); J. Barnes (Liverpool).

Bingham's request is granted

Billy Bingham, the Northern Ireland team manager, was yesterday given a new contract by the Irish Football Association (IFA) until July 1992 (George Ace writes). After the international committee of the IFA had complied with Bingham's request for an extension of their original contract on offer — which was until 1990 — he said: "Now I can get on with my job. Money was never an issue; it was the length of the contract that I felt was putting me under unnecessary pressure and I am very happy that the IFA have seen my point of view."

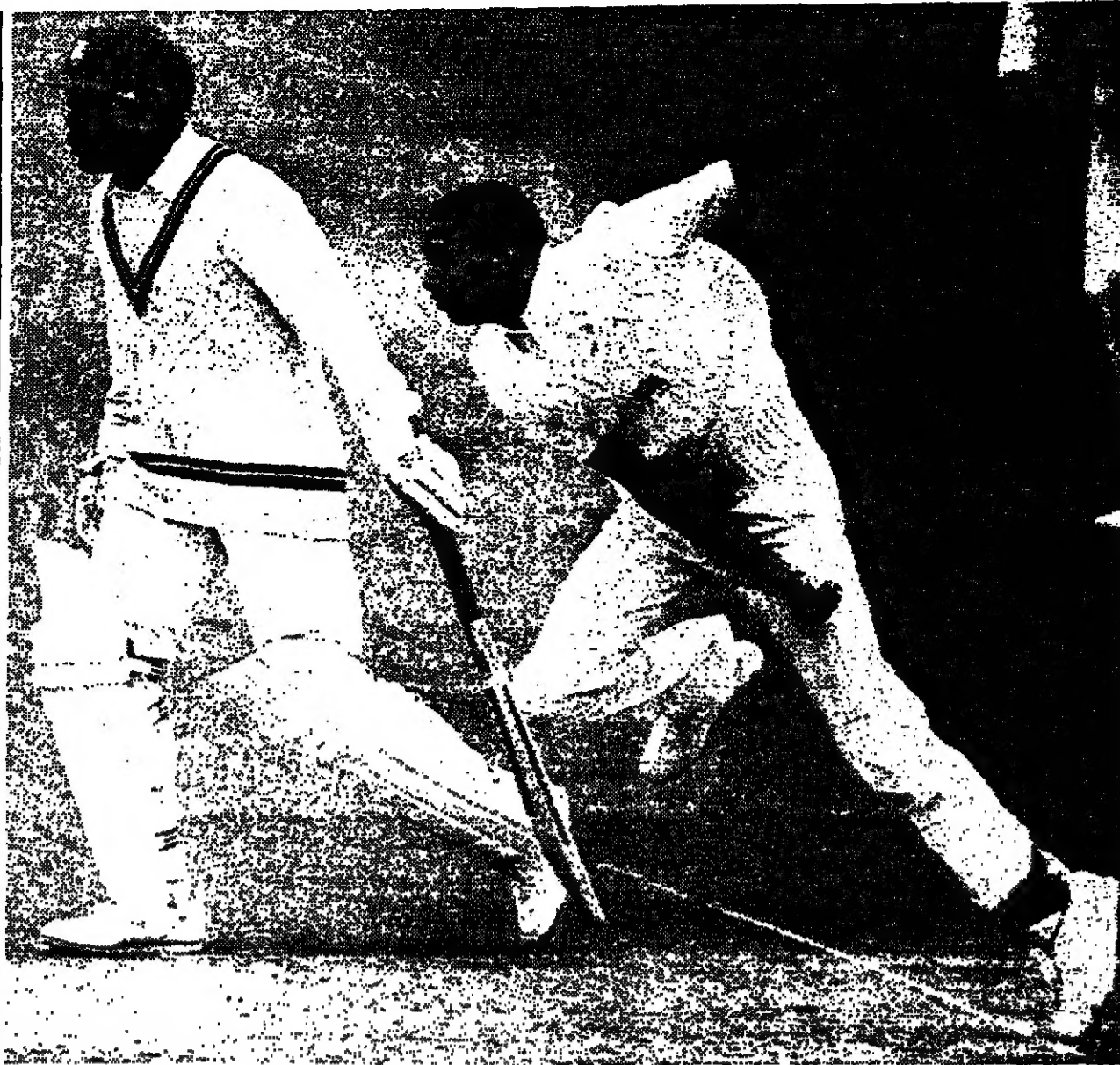
Steve Doyle, Sunderland's uncapped midfielder, has been called up by Wales to replace Peter Nicholas who has been ruled out of his country's games in Malta and Italy next month.

Buttimore is called into touring party

From David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Toowoomba, Australia — Tim Buttimore, the Leicester centre who arrived last week to spend the summer in Sydney, has been added to the England rugby union touring party in Australia and Fiji. He will replace John Buckton, the Saracens player who was concussed during Sunday's game against Queensland in Brisbane.

Buttimore, aged 26, was a replacement during England's B internationals last season, but his only previous senior representative appearance was seven years ago, for the under-23s against the Netherlands. He is due to join the party here this evening.



Light in the gloom: DeFreitas' bowling made most of the conditions at Lord's yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Foster has sight of full fitness

By Andrew Langmore

As play stuttered towards murky inconclusion at Lord's yesterday, victim of the inflexibility of the umpires, there were contrasting fortunes for the two bowlers not long ago considered certain to share the new ball against West Indies.

At Maidon, Neil Foster completed stage two of his comeback in a Second XI game for Essex, against Loughborough University. At Lord's, Graham Dilley was struck down and with that traditional sporting ailment, the "mystery virus".

"Graham had not been feeling right the day before the international at Headingley," said the England manager Mickey Stewart. "We left the decision on his fitness to the last minute, but he felt generally run down when he started doing his warm-up routine and he's been resting all day."

Foster, whose last match for England was in the Bicentenary Test just under four months ago, has been enduring a punishing routine at the National Rehabilitation Centre at Lillieshall since an operation on his knee just before the start of the season. He successfully took the first step on the road to recovery last Sunday, when he bowled seven overs and made 40 against Warwickshire at Edgbaston.

"He is on target at the moment," said Stewart. "If all continues to go well, he should be ready for selection by the second Test at Lord's."

● Denis Compton celebrated his 70th birthday at Lord's yesterday as the guest of J. J. Warr, president of MCC. He was presented with a cake made in the shape of a cricket bag.

England see bright side of gloomy day at Lord's

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

Barring the type of calamity from which they seem to have developed immunity, England will today complete a remarkable clean sweep of the Texaco Trophy internationals.

West Indies, haunted by the weather conditions and inhibited by demandingly accurate bowling, ended a patchwork day at Lord's in ruins at 125 for six from 50 overs. The pity of it is that relatively few may be present today to witness what should be England's sixth consecutive one-day win over their once-impenetrable opponents.

Texaco's sponsorship of the one-day international series, now in its fifth summer, has consistently been blessed by the weather. This is their sixteenth international and the first to be carried over to a second day. Sad though it was for the 24,000 people who had bought up every ticket some weeks ago, such an outcome was inevitable once rain had

driven off the players following a single delivery at the start of the day.

There was something very familiar about the sight of Dickie Bird, umpiring his 100th international match, anxious about the light throughout the day, and intermittently scurrying to pick out the stumps as showers descended. It was not, however, the celebration he would have wished. Nor were these the conditions West Indies would have chosen to bat in.

Although nothing like as uneven as Saturday's Headingley pitch, this one offered constant lateral movement for the seamers. The ball also swung under the lead-grey sky. Batting would have been a hazardous business even without the mental disruption of five breaks.

DeFreitas, whose bowling has looked progressively sharper through the series, glued up the start of the

innings with six overs for one run. Later, he held a superb boundary catch to remove the ominous Greenidge, then dismissed Richards with the second ball of his second spell. He was England's man of the day, but there was no weak link in the attack and lapses in the field were rare.

West Indies may not even have felt concerned when only 17 runs accrued from 10 overs. Pringle's first over was the signal to change gear, Greenidge taking four and six from the first two balls, and the stand was worth 40 when Haynes was needlessly run out answering an ambitious call from his partner.

Small was now into another immaculate spell in which his length and line hardly faltered. Greenidge somehow survived it, but soon after the third interruption, he swept violently at Embury and somehow DeFreitas, picking the ball out of a dark background held on to the catch heroically.

Richardson still seems unable to play off the front foot when conditions demand it. He was half-way again when Pringle swung one away to take the outside edge. Logic was thrown out by Lamb when Richardson attempted a fatal form of tip-and-run, and the captain himself misjudged DeFreitas's length and steered a catch to gully. Pringle conceded only 15 in his last 10 overs. Gattling's bowling changes were bold and productive.

Umpire Bird, not for the first time, provoked the ire of the crowd by his assessment of the light and a further 70 minutes was lost. In a brief final session, Hooper committed suicide against DeFreitas's throwing arm from long leg. For the hapless West Indians, it was that sort of day.

SCOREBOARD FROM LORD'S									
England won toss									
WEST INDIES									
		30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
G G Greenidge c DeFreitas b Embury	36	1	5	118	54				
D L Hayes (in out Broad/Pringle)	10	1	5	58	46				
R B Richardson c Embury b DeFreitas	13	1	1	56	46				
V V A Richards c Embury b DeFreitas	9	1	1	40	16				
A L Long (in out Lamb)	12	1	1	51	46				
C L Hooper run out (DeFreitas/Downton)	15	1	1	39	32				
J P Dujon not out	16	1	1	13	12				
M D Marshall not out	19	1	1						
Extras (B 2, P 6, W 6)	14								
Total (6 wickets, 50 overs)						125			
W K M Barnes, C A Walsh and I R Bishop to bat.									
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0 (2.75, 3.78, 4.79, 5.65, 5.11).									
BOWLING: DeFreitas 10-5-12-1 (w 1); Radford 11-2-29-0 (w 2); Small 9-1-17-0 (w 3); Pringle 11-4-27-1 (w 3); Embury 7-1-27-1; Gooch 2-1-3-0.									
ENGLAND									
		30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
G A Gooch, B C Broad, M W Gooch, M A Lynch, A J Lamb, D R Pringle, P R Downton, J E Embury, P A J DeFreitas, G G Small and N V Radford.									
Umpires: H D Bird and M J Peters.									
Overs	10	20	30	40	50				
West Indies	17-0	50-1	75-2	89-5	125-6				

Board waits for Budd

The British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) yesterday broke its silence on the competitive status of Zola Budd. The Board is to do nothing.

The BAAB council meeting on Saturday had hoped to consider the findings of its committee of inquiry into Budd's alleged participation in a meeting in South Africa, but Budd's sudden flight to the land of her birth left the committee without having interviewed the subject of the allegations.

After consulting its solicitors, the Board yesterday issued a statement: "The BAAB's council regretted that Zola Budd had not availed herself of the opportunity of attending and submitting evidence to the inquiry. If Budd returns to the UK — and requests the BAAB to determine her eligibility, the BAAB will ask the committee immediately to reconvene."

● The International Athletics Club yesterday denied reports that it had called for a boycott of next month's UK championships over the latest package of payments to athletes.

McEnroe to return

John McEnroe is preparing to return to Wimbledon next month, three years after his last appearance at the championships.

McEnroe, aged 29 and champion three times, is on the list of provisional entries. He was last there in 1985 when beaten in the quarter-finals by Kevin Carron.

Of the world's top 20, Frenchman Yannick Noah, who says he wants a month off, Czech player Miloslav Mezir (injured), teenaged American Andre Agassi — "not ready" according to his

coach — and Sweden's Kent Carlsson will miss the championships.

Jeremy Bates (world ranked 70) and Andrew Castle (91), among the direct entries, the first time for several years that more than one Briton has made the list.

Martina Navratilova, Steffi Graf and Chris Evert head the women's list, with the quartet of Sara Gomer, Jo Durie, Anne Hobbs and "adopted" American Monique Javer making up the British direct acceptances.

McEnroe's Paris win, page 46

SPORT IN BRIEF

Television pulls out

The BBC yesterday said it had decided not to film a controversial speed climbing competition. The British Mountaineering Council has opposed outdoor speed climbing as going against the ethics of the sport.

Nova International, the sports events company run by Brendan Foster, had approached BBC producers who showed an interest in covering the event, the first of its kind. However the BBC has decided that an "incident-free" event could not be guaranteed and pulled out. The decision was apparently partly based on threats to disrupt the event.

Court order

Delivery of a new court cover for the Scottish grasscourt tennis championships in Edinburgh next month has been delayed by Italian customs.

Big lead

Boston, Massachusetts (AFP) — The Edmonton Oilers defeated the Boston Bruins 6-3 here on Sunday night to take a 3-0 lead in the Stanley Cup final ice hockey series.

Collins task

Tom Collins, the European light heavyweight boxing champion, will make his second defence of the title against Pedro Van Raamsdonk, of The Netherlands, in London later this summer.

END COLUMN

Beware the boys from Bogotá

By Geoffrey Matthews

Colombia may have been third choice from South America to be invited to the triangular Roca Cup, but England would be extremely unwise to consider them third-rate opposition today.

Colombian football has gone through something of a revolution over the last decade, a development not coincidentally corresponding with the country's emergence as the nerve-centre of the South American cocaine trade.

In recent years vast sums of "hot money" entered football clubs, triggering a spending spree on expensive imported players from throughout the continent, especially from Argentina and Uruguay, and managers like Carlos Bilardo — who had a successful spell in charge of Carlos Valderrama's former club, Deportivo Cali, in the nation's third largest city.

Following a crackdown by the government and the national football federation, club finances are less polluted by drug money today, while the ranks of foreign players are being reduced and may be phased out completely over the next five years, a sign of mounting confidence in home-grown talent.

Dramatic advances at club level

In the meantime, Colombia has emerged as a major force in South American club football. Its most successful club is América, also of Cali, which has reached the last three finals of the continental cup, the Copa Libertadores, being each time, but year unsuccessfully, to Peñarol of Uruguay. The dramatic advances at club level have been accompanied by the seasonal transformation of the national team under two brilliant club managers — Gabriel Ochoa Uribe, of América, and new Francisco Matallana, of Atlético Nacional, a club in Medellín, Colombia's second biggest city and capital of the cocaine underworld.

The switch from Ochoa to Matallana might be compared in English terms to that between Don Revie and Ron Greenwood, though Ochoa — unlike Revie — was undoubtedly successful.

Ochoa was a supreme strategist who believed in possession. In his obsessional pursuit of success, however, he was too inclined to sanction many of the bad habits his players had picked up from club colleagues brought in from Buenos Aires and Montevideo.

Matallana has built on the discipline Ochoa instilled in the team, but has changed the style to one of attack. Last year Colombia convincingly beat Argentina, Maradona et al, in Buenos Aires during the Copa América and were widely praised as the best side in the competition.

The most exciting player in world

Valderrama is thought to be one of the most exciting players in the world. He has an arrogant, headstrong spirit, leading the frenetic son of Santa Marta, a city on Colombia's Caribbean coast which was at the heart of the Spanish Main and attacked by Sir Francis Drake. Goodness knows how many miles he runs during a game, one moment saving a desperate situation in his own penalty area, the next heading a goal at the other end after marshalling his troops in an inspired defence-splitting counter-attack. He roams everywhere and seems impossible to mark.

It is also appropriate that Colombia should play in this competition. Sir Stanley Moss was considered a good friend of Colombia. He visited Bogotá and championed Colombia's bid to host a World Cup. England and Colombia also have other footballing links. The Bogotá club, Santa Fe, was founded in 1941 by two businessmen who were educated in England where they became Arsenal supporters. As a result, Santa Fe adopted Arsenal's red and white stripes. In the early 1980s such British players as Charlie Miller, Neil Franklin, and George Mowford turned out for Santa Fe.

Millonarios, Colombia's league champions at that time, had the great Argentinean Alfredo Di Stefano and two Britons — one Higgins and one Flower or Flowers — in their line-up. This period is often called the "golden era" of Colombian football, yet it pales in comparison with the renaissance seen over the last decade.

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